No 61,202

THE TIMES

WEDNESDAY APRIL 7 1982

Price twenty pence

Argentine imports banned

All imports from Argentina into Britain were banned from midnight last night. The embargo was announced by Mrs Thatcher in the House of Commons. All import licences were revoked with immediate effect but applications from British importers for licences to import goods which were in transit before the ban came into effect will be given special consideration. Page 5

Naval forces rendezvous

Part of the British naval force bound for the Falklands were in rendezvous in the South Western approaches yesterday. At the same time HMS Invincible, one of the two carriers, began bringing its Harrier jets and Sea King helicopters to full operational capacity Page 4

Air superiority may be crucial

Air superiority could be crucial in determining any confrontation between British and Argentaine forces in the South Atlantic. but achieving it could present Royal Navy commanders with their greatest problems Page 4

Expatriates fearful

British expatriates in Buenos Aires are afraid of what the future has in store for them. The easy atmosphere which they enjoyed has disappeared and they wonder whether their days in Argentina may shortly be over Page 5

Oil a key factor

Oil is now emerging as a key factor in any prospective agreement which might be reached between Britain, Argentine and the United States for resolving the Falkland Islands crisis Page 4



Osvaldo Ardiles, the Argentine who plays for Tottenham Hotspur, arriving at Buenos Aires airport to play for Argentina in the World cup. He said be fully backed the Falklands invasion.

Licensed to drill

Oil production licences covering some of the prettiest parts of Dorset, Someset, and the Hampshire-Sussex border were issued by Mr Nigel Lawson, Secretary for Energy, to a consortium of small companies Page 13

Haig warning

A proposed freeze on new nuclear weapons would place Western civilization at risk and increase the likelihood of global devastation, Mr Alexander Haig, the United States Secretary of State, said Page 7

Strike pact blow

Hopes that the Government might negotiate a "no strike pact" with any of the powerful public sector unions were dashed when the Electrical Power Engineers' Association decided to oppose any such agreement Page 2

Government's new assessment

Galtieri 'did not know of Falklands invasion'

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

The Government believes that the invasion of the falkland Islands by Argentina may have been carried out by nationalist-minded admirals against the wished of President Galtieri and without his foreknowledge. This accounts, it was suggested yesterday, for what in retrospect is clearly seen as a defective assessment of intelligence available in London.

The Argentine fleet was reported on March 29 to have put to sea for joint manoeuvres with the Uruguayan Navy, which had frequently been held in the past. Before they sailed intelligence sources in Buenos Aires made known their imminent departure, as reported in *The Times* yesterday. Their movements at sea were also noted and reported — the daily intelligence digests prepared for the Prime Minister, the Foreign Secretary and the Defence Secretary.

But not till March 31—two days before the invasion did it become clear to the intelligence sources, it is now claimed, that the Argentine contingent had broken off the manoeuvres and was steaming at full speed for the Falkland Islands 400 miles away.

That evening, Mrs Thatcher called a crisis meeting in her room at the Commons. Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary unforewarned of the reality of the crisis, was in Tel Aviv having left London the previous evening.

The Prime Minister consulted for five hours, until nearly midnight, with Mr Humphrey Atkins, Lord Carrington's deputy, and with Mr Richard Luce, the Foreign Office Minister of State who was dealing with the Falklands. Also present were Sir Anthony Acland, who is to take over as Permanent Under-Secretary at the Foreign Office next week, Sir Frank Cooper, Permanent Under-Secretary for Defence, and Admiral Sir Henry Leach, the Chief of Naval Staff.

For the first time it was clear to the ministers and their advisers that the invasion was imminent and that it was too late to take miliatary action to forestall it. Instead moves were begun to gather diplomatic support and to notify our allies that there would be a military riposte. The exercise to secure support for Britain in the Security Council was put in hand and preparations were made for the task force to sail as soon possible.

Time for resolution says Mrs Thatcher

In the Commons yesterday, Mrs Thatcher confirmed that last Wednesday evening — March 31 — was the precise time at which she learnt that the Argentian invasion fleet was on its way. She was pressed by Mr Michael Foot, the leader of the opposition, to comment on the report in *The Times* yesterday from Simon Winchester in Buenos Aires that information about the attack was transmitted to London 10 days earlier. In reply Mrs Thatcher pointed out that the intelligence sources quoted in the report said that London was told of the existence of the force on March 29 "though not of its intent".

Mr Foot said the House had the right to judge if British intelligence was operating properly, and, if so, what action was taken, and Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, recalled that Mr Luce had spoken of the Government receiving a warning of an attack "about a fortnight ago".

Mrs Thatcher replied that they knew there were problems on South Georgia, but the threat to Port Stanley and the Falkland Islands came to her on March 31.

Mrs Thatcher also told the Commons that the Government was imposing an embargo on the import of all goods from the Argentine from midnight last night.

Mrs Thatcher declined a Labour backbencher's suggestion that she should resign with the words: "This is the time for resolution, not resignation". The uncertain mood of the Commons, four days after the angry debate last Saturday, will be tested today in a further full day of debates in which Mr Francis Pym, 48 hours after his appointment as Foreign Secretary, will open for the Government. Mr John Nott, the Defence Secretary, will wind up.

Labour unity upset by Benn

Last night Mr Nott, who made a disastrous speech on Saturday, was well received at a crowded meeting of the Conservative backbench defence committee. He convinced his hearers that the naval force was ready for action and he indicated that his hopes of recovering the Falklands by diplomatic rather than military means were not high. The backbenchers' mood was described as hawkish, with nearly all the 20 or so MPs who spoke apparently anxious for action.

Mr David Steel, the Liberal Leader, is working on the assumption that the crisis may destroy the Government. In cases of an early general election, he is urging his party negotiators to complete quickly their negotiations with the Social Democrats on the sharing out of parliamentary seats.

☐ Mr Wedgewood Benn yesterday upset a painstaking attempt to achieve a united Labour Party attitude to the invasion of the Falklands and in so doing exposed a serious split in the left over the ultimate use of force to recover the territories (Philip Webster writes).

As it emerged that the Labour leadership's position in today's Commons debate will be that force as a last resort if all else fails should be backed, Mr Benn infuriated his colleagues on the party's international committee by opposing the sending of the naval task force to the South Atlantic and insisting on a vote on the issue, in which he was defeated by only one vote.

Mr Benn incensed some at the meeting by moving an amendment proposing that Labour should oppose the sending of the force which, he said, could lead to bloodshed

He ignored an appeal from Miss Joan Lestor, the committee chairman, to withdraw it in the interests of preserving the consensus that had been arrived at. The amendment was defeated and the committee then went on to pass by 11 votes to nil.



Pointing the way: Mr Francis Pym, the new Foreign secretary, outside 10 Downing Street yesterday.

£2,100m off shares and pound tumbles

By David Blake, Economics Editor

The pound and shares both fell sharply yesterday as concern mounted about the impact of Britain's dispute with Argentina.

Sterling closed at its lowest level against the dollar since September 1977, down 1.85 cents at $1.7495. Its effective rate against all currencies was down to 89.4 per cent of its 1975 level, a drop of 0.9 percentage points. The Bank of England spent an estimated $100m (£57m) slowing down the slide.

Shares were marked down heavily early in a day that showed signs of a panic reaction. At one stage the FT 30-share index had fallen 17.6 points to 542.3, but it later recovered to close 6.9 points down at 553.0. £2,100m was wiped off the value of shares by the close.

Gilts also fell sharply and interest rates in the medium-term market edged up. There also a sharp surge in the gold price, which closed $11.75 up at $349.50.

The Government has decided not to use Britain's reserves of foreign exchange to prop up the pound. Any intervention in the markets by the Bank of England will be limited to smoothing out violent fluctuations.

Even before the Falkands crisis blew up, the Treasury had been reconciled to a devaluation of the pound in effective terms of about 5 per cent. But a bigger drop than that, unless caused in a way which would not boost inflation, would be resisted by means of higher interest rates.

Britain's gold and foreign currency reserves stand at about $19,000m. The Governmemt thinks it would be a waste of that money to use it propping up the pound. Any measures to defend sterling will take the form of higher interest rates in the United Kingdom. There are no plans to re-introduce exchange controls.

Although sterling's effective exchange rate has been stable at about 90 per cent of its 1975 level for many months, the Government has not been pursuing that level as a target. An exchange rate slightly above 85 per cent of its 1975 level is thought to pose few inflationary risks.

But a drop below this could push up raw material costs and lead to a new surge in prices. The Government was also keen not to be seen bringing the exchange rate down to a lower level for fear that it would cause a 1976-style run on the pound.

Because of this, the intention has been to lean against any fall through edging up interest rates but with the intention of slowing it rather than stopping it altogether.

A drop against the Deutschemark and the yen are thought to have particularly good implications for Britain's chance to compete in world markets. A small devaluation of sterling could lead to stronger British exports and lower imports, thus helping industrial recovery.

Other implications of the crisis are all bad for the economy. In the short term, there will be some extra defence spending on items such as fuel and stores, though the cost of this is not yet known.

No decision will be taken until later in the financial year on whether this justifies increasing the defence budget. There will also be renewed pressure to reverse recent cuts in defence spending, especially in the navy.

Industry will be little affected by the ban on imports from Argentina announced last night. But London's status as an international financial centre may be harmed by the freezing of Argentine assets.

Finance Bill, page 24



4 nuclear submarines 'out on patrol'

By Craig Seton and Henry Stanhope

As many as four British nuclear-powered submarines could be on the way to the Falkland Islands — or already there.

Four of the six hunter-killer boats normally based at Devonport are said to be "out on patrol", including HMS Superb which is assumed by now to be in the Falkland Islands waters. The others are her 4,500-ton sister Swiftsure-class submarines Sceptre, Spartan and Splendid.

Meanwhile it was disclosed that 650 men of the 3rd Battalion of the Parachute Regiment, currently the Army's spearhead unit, are to sail on the requisitioned cruise liner, Canberra.

Shore leave has been cancelled for sailors from six frigates which returned to Plymouth yesterday after the exercise Spring Train. It is expected that at least some and possibly all six — HMS Battleaxe, Euryalus, Aurora, Dido, Active and Ariadne — will be refuelled and resupplied, then turned round again and sent after the other ships of the Falkland Islands task force.

The 6,000-ton logistic landing ships Sir Galahad and Sir Geraint sailed from Plymouth carrying Royal Marines and supporting Army units from the Royal Engineers and Royal Artillery with 105mm light guns. Trucks and helicopters could also be seen on deck as they left before a waving crowd of several hundred families.

At Portsmouth, the County Class destroyer Fife was said to be undergoing preparations to put to sea. But then everywhere was a scene of frantic endeavour as the Royal Navy fought to get the rest of its massive task force to sea in time.

The call to arms was not universally endorsed. Shipyard workers who were asked to sail yesterday on HMS Fearless with the Royal Marines to complete unfinished work, refused on the grounds no-one could tell them when they would return - and the work will now have to be finished by sailors.

Seafaring unions have also complained of lack of consultation over the requisitioning of ships for the task force and a meeting of the Maritime Board agreed that the men involved in crewing the ships should be given compensation totalling 150 per cent of their basic earnings.

News of their discontent coincided with a report that Britain's biggest and most powerful tug, the Salvageman of Hull, had been taken over by the Government to assist in the operation.

At Southampton Docks police imposed tight security as heavy military equipment including Scorpion light tanks were trundled into the port to await shipment.

The Scorpions were believed to belong to two reconnaissance troops of the Blues and Royals, one of the two Household Cavalry regiments. They were being loaded on the 8,500-ton roll-on roll-off container ship Elk, which normally plies the North Sea route to Sweden from Middlesbrough, but which has now been requisitioned from P and O Lines.

Reporters described a scene of impressive activity

continued on back page, col 1

Peer to takeover trade ministry

By Anthony Bevins Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister last night announced the apointment of Lord Cookfield, a former civil servant with the Board of Inland Revenue. and former chairman of the Price Commission, as Secretary of State for Trade.

Lord Cookfield, who replaces Mr John Biffen, the new Leader of the Commons, is promoted from his post as Minister of State at the Treasury.

The new Cabinet minister is 65 and his appointmnte, one of 11 announvced from Downing Street last night, completes the Government changes caused by this week's Foreign Office resignations.

Two other changes of title were announced by the Prime Minister. Lady Young, the leader of the LOrds, relinquishes the office of Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and takes up the new title of Lord Privy Seal, an office freed on the resignation of Mr Humphrey Atkins from the Foreign Office.

Anothe Cabinet Minister, Mr Cecil Parkinson, Paymaster General, also becomes Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. He remains chairman of the Conservative Party, but MPs last night noted with interest that Mrs Thatcher had made her decision on whether to put him in charge of Government Propaganda in place of Mr Pym

The Prime Minister also announced four further changes at the Foreign Office. Lord Belstead has been promoted from Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Home Office to become Minister of State at the Foreign Office. He will be joined by Mr Cranley Onslow, promoted from the backbenches, as the fourth minister of state in the department.

Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State under Lord Carrington, becomes the departmental number two, and Mr Neil Marten remains Minister of State with responsibility for overseas development and aid.

Lord Trefgarne, who was a Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Foreign Office under Lord Carrington, is transferred to the Department of Health and Social Security, as a Parliamentary Under-Secretary, and is replaced by Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Edinburgh, Pentlands, a Parliamentary Under-Secretary from the Scottish Office.

Another promotion has gone to Mr John Wakeham, Maldon, who switches from Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Department of Industry to replace Lord Cockfield.

Lord Belstead is replaced by Lord Elton as Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Home Office.

Hug a tree to save a forest

From Trevor Fishlock Delhi, April 6

In poignant defiance of contractors wrecking the forests of India, villagers have taken to hugging trees to save them from axes and chainsaws.

The Chipko movement — Chipko is the Hindi word for hug — is a symptom of growing concern about the widespread and indiscriminate destruction of forests and the resulting increase in flooding and landslips.

Vast tracts of the Himalayas and other regions have been laid waste by contractors who bribe the officials whose job is to protect the forests. A government official says India is heading for an ecological disaster.

By wrapping their bodies around trees when cutters approach, villagers draw attention to what is widely seen as unscrupulous plundering.

In 30 years, according to official estimates, India has lost more than 17,000 square miles of forest, an area greater than Holland. The actual loss may be greater than this. In the Himalayan belt, from Kashmir to Assam, once covered with majestic forests, the slopes have been denuded below 6,000ft.

A recent estimate put India's forests at 135,000 square miles, about a tenth of the country. It makes a mockery of the 1952 forest policy which aimed to raise the forest cover from a fifth to a third of the land area.

Although most of the great forest areas have suffered, the damage has been most serious in the north. The government of the state of Kashmir recently admitted that a number of famous forests had been obliterated. In the neighbouring mountain state of Himachal Pradesh the tree cover, two fifths 20 years ago, has been halved. There is even worse damage in parts of Uttar Pradesh along the southern slopes of Nepal.

Without tree cover the topsoil is being washed away, leaving large stretches of land barren and increasing the silting and flood potential of the great rivers which are the arteries of the northern plains.

Water supplies retained by the sponge effect of forests have dried up and there have been more avalanches. Scientists have protested that the ecological systems of forest areas are being ruined.

A rapidly growing population, human and animal, is making severe demands on forest areas. There is a shortage of timber and of firewood, the most important cooking fuel. The need for timber is being met by contractors whose devastations have not been countered or made good by the government. The emphasis has been on making money out of trees, while replanting has been neglected.

Continued on back page, col 1

Huge build-up of men and arms

From Christopher Thomas Buenos Aires, April 6

Argentina appears to be making extensive contingency plans against what it sees as a serious possibility of a British attempt to bombard key military posts.

It is admitting an enormous build-up of military personnel and hardware on the Falkland Islands. Some big Army basis in Argentina are now virtually empty.

Military sources said today that they were fully confident of resisting any British attack on the Falklands. The land forces would theoretically have a huge built-in advantage over attackers coming from the sea and Britain would require 15,000 troops to overcome the 5,000 to 6,000 Argentines who soon would be in position on the Falklands.

The sources thought that Britain's greatest problem would be inferiority in the air and lack of logistical support for its ships.

The euphoria that gripped Argentina after the invasion has largely given way to deep concern at the prospects of military confrontation. The Soviet Union, which relies heavily on Argentine grain has formally expressed concern to the military junta that a naval blockade by Britain might disrupt the supplies.

That would have a disastrous effect in the Soviet Union, which buys 75 per cent of Argentina's grain exports, and is Argentina's biggest trade partner.

The grain composed mostly of corn, is being harvested at the moment and is scheduled for shipment in the next few months.

Mr Alexei Manzhulo, the Soviet Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade, who is in Buenos Aires to negotiate increased trade between the countries, expressed alarm at the possible disruption of Soviet-chartered grain vessels.

The Soviet Union buys 38 per cent of all Argentine exports and trade between the countries totals $3,400m (£1,880m) a year. Only $67m worth of that is represented by Argentine imports and the Soviet Union is putting strong pressure on the junta substantially to increase imports, particularly of heavy machine goods and power supply equipment.

The Argentine military preparations are concentrated at Comodoro Rivadavia, a port about 900 miles south of Buenos Aires which was used as the bridgehead

Newspapers in Buenos Aires are still adopting a jingoistic approach to the crisis. The official news agency, Telan, today released a story about the alleged discovery of drugs in the barracks used by the British Marines. The headline said: "Examples of decadence of the British Empire".

☐ Moscow: Tass today blamed Britain for the dispute saying that it should have withdrawn from the Falklands (Reuter reports). The agency dropped its strict neutrality on the issue for the first time.

Britain would welcome islanders

All the 1,800 Falkland Islanders would be welcome in Britain, even though some of them do not have the automatic right of abide in the United Kingdom, the Home Office said yesterday. Most of the islanders are citizens of the United Kingdom and Colonies, but about 300 of them and their children do not have the automatic right to live permanently in Britain under the present immigration rules because neither their parents nor grandparents were born in Britain. The Home Office, however, said that in view of the situation they would all be admitted if the need arose.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

'Mountain' of railway arrears

If the Government approved electrification nown the railways might not be able to implement it, Sir Peter Parker, British Rail chairman, said yesterday (Michael Baily). That was because the railways were facing a mountain of arrears in necessary expenditure.

Addressing a rally of rail pensioners at Euston, Sir Peter declared that present railway policies could be regretted in the longer term. British Rail had hit all its targets in the past five years but "we can meet our financial targets and still fail the future".

His warning was echoed by Sir Henry Johnson, a former railway chairman, he said that with the most cost - effective railway in Europe Britain was failing to apply consistent policies and investment. The public were getting angry and railwaymen were blamed.

Appealing to the Government to help the railways after the recent "shattering setback", the chairman of the pensioners, Mr Frank Hick, a former railway operator, said: "We have watched with great sadness the current dispute and tearing apart of our railway inheritance."

MPs to protest against Reagan

A group of Labour MPs yesterday announced plans to dub President Reagan "an enemy of peace" during his visit to Britain in June. They have formed a Reagan Reception Committee, already backed by Mr Wedgwood Benn and more than 30 other Labour MPs, to organize protests during his visit.

MPs are expected to join pickets against the President at Heathrow, Windsor Castle and the United States Embassy.

When he is received by both Houses of Parliament on June 8, the "reception committee" plans an alternative meeting in Parliament's gr and committee room.

Mr Ernest Roberts, the committee chairman, said in London the group did not regard the American people as an enemy, but that Mr Reagan was "an enemy of peace." His motive with his Falklands initiative was to avoid a war in his own backyard, Mr Roberts, MP for Hackney, North, and Stoke Newington, said.

Benefit cut for school-leavers

Up to 350,000 families will lose child benefit this summer under new regulations affecting school-leavers. Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, announced yesterday that child benefit will be withdrawn for any school-leaver getting either a place on a Youth Opportunities Programme or a full-time job during school holiday periods (Pat Healey writes). In a written answer yesterday Mr Fowler said it was difficult to justify continuing payment of child benefit for young people who got full-time work during the holidays.

Power engineers dash hopes for strike pact

By Donald Macinytre, Labour Correspondent

Prospects of the present Government negotiating a no-strikes agreement with the bigger public sector groups were extinguished yesterday when delegates of the Electrical Power Engineers' Association, whose 38,000 members control supplies to the National Grid, voted overwhelmingly "not to enter in to any agrement with the employing boards that removes the right to strike."

The move came as the union's conference in York was told by Mr John Lyons, the general secretary, that industrial action was "very possibly unavoidable" if the Electricity Council failed to maintain pay differentials enjoyed by engineers and managers over the industry's 90,000 manual workers.

The power engineers' association, one of the most powerful and moderate of TUC-affiliated unions, is thought to have been almost the only one to take up informally the idea of a no-strike deal when it was floated by the Opposition during the 1978 to 1979 "winter of discontent."

Only a few hands were raised yesterday againt te call to oppose such a pact, proposed by Mr Tony Aldous, of the union's headquarters branch. Mr Aldous said it would be wrong for the union "to sell the right to strike for 30 pieces of silver".

Backing the anti-pact motion, Mr Lyons said: "We have never set out to hold the country to ransom over greedy pay claims. However, when you see how the employers behave when you have the right to strike, how do you imagine they would carry on if you were without it".

No legal arrangement could embody a no-strike provision at the same time as protecting the earnings of the union's members, he said.

Mr Aldous told delegates that while the Conservatives had not since assuming office come up with any firm proposals for a no-strike pact he believed they might do so in the next year or so in an attempt to buy popularity before a general election.

Opposing the motion, Mr Peter Randall, from Reading, said that the strike weapon had come to be seen as a "sort of trade union virility symbol", and added: "Are we ever likely to use it, and if we do will it be effective?"

Mr Lyons's warning that industrial action was possible in the near future came during a debate about the Electricity Council's two-month delay in making a pay offer to engineers and managers, who earn between £5,635 and £23,150 per year. The association fears that differentials over manual workers will be eroded to maintain the gap between the top of their pay scale and the £23,500 earned by the lowest-paid area board members. Mr Lyons said that engineers and managers were becoming "the meat in the sandwich" between board members and manual workers.

Mr Nigel Lawson, Secretary of State for Energy, who cancelled a visit to York because of yesterday's emergency Cabinet meeting, escaped what would almost certainly have been a rough ride from delegates angry about the dismissal of Mr Glyn England, chairman of the Central Electricity Generation Board, and about the Government's plan to sell off part of the electricity supply industry.



Mr and Mrs Duncan: 'It's a dream coming true and worth every penny'

Third time lucky for test-tube mother

It could be third time lucky for the wife of a Coventry schoolmaster who is expecting test tube twins. For Mrs Satwinder Duncan, aged 24, whose husband Mr Carlton Duncan, is the deputy head of Sidney Stringer Community College in Coventry, was unsuccessful with two previous implants at the Cambridgeshire clinic of Mr Patrick Steptoe, pioneer of the test-tube baby technique.

Now a hospital scan has confirmed that Mrs Duncan, married for five years, will give birth to twins early in September. She said yesterday: "Its delightful news and a dream coming true. I will have three."

The couple, who live in Aldbury Rise, Coventry, recently adopted a boy aged three. Mr Duncan said: "The first two implants cost £1,600 each and the final one £1,800. But it is well worth every penny."

Later this month he takes over as headmaster of a 1,000 pupil school in Bradford.

The Steptoe clinic is maintaining its usual confidentiality by refusing to discuss whether there are any other test-tube twins on the way in Britain.

☐ Only a small proportion of the attempts to implant a fertilized ovum in the uterus are successful, (Our Medical Correspondent writes). In order to increase the likelihood of success some gynaecologists are now using more than one ovum at a time. This will result in a higher than normal incidence of twins. More than one attempt can be made at implantation but each requires the patient to be admitted to hospital for ten days for laparascopy and other checks. As the cost on each occasion in the private sector, is about £2,000 financial rather than medical considerations are likely to be the prohibiting factor.

Challenge of SDP in local polls

By Richard Evans and David Walker

Two-thirds of the 2,300 SDP candidates fighting next month's local government elections have never contested an election before, it was disclosed yesterday.

With the Liberals providing a similar number of candidates, the two-party Alliance is fighting nearly all the town hall seats which will be decided by voters on May 6.

Mr John Cartwright, SDP MP for Greenwich, Woolwich, East, party spokesman on local government, said at the start of the party's first large-scale electoral campaign yesterday that many of the SNP candidates with little political experience "were diving in the deep end".

"These elections will be a major test for our organization because we cannot concentrate in the same way as we can for parliamentary by-elections. Many of our candidates have never fought anything before. Many of our agents have never been agents in an election, so everbody is learning.

"It is very much a dress rehearsal for us. It is experience which we very much need in terms of the coming general election. We regard it as a searching test of our organization", he said.

The SDP has held training sessions attended by about 1,000 candidates and agents. Mr Cartwright said he was disappointed that only 15 per cent of the SDP candidates were women, but was encouraged by the number of people from ethnic minorities contesting seats for the party.

Social Democrats have agreed a joint policy with their Liberal partners in many areas and their slogan for the campign is, care about people, care about costs.

"We want to try to give local government back to the people; to make it more sensitive, more caring, and to bring it closer in touch with the people it is there to serve, while at the same time trying to deliver services in as efficient and low cost way as we can.

"That means challenging everything that has been done in local government. The fact that so many of our candidates are new to local government is a plus factor. They will go in questioning and challenging everything and trying to find better and cheaper ways of providing services", Mr Cartwright said.

The SDP wants to restore public confidence in local government which, it says, has been undermined by the attitudes and policy of central government as well as the actions of extreme Labour councils.

Schools peace

A teachers' dispute that had lasted for six weeks in the London borough of Barking disrupting the education of thousands of children, was settled yesterday. Schools will be back to normal when the summer term begins on April 19 after an agreement between the National Union of Teachers and the Labour-controlled authority which had agreed to restore 100 of 159 teaching posts due to be axed.

Democrats ballot on election method

By George Clark

Ballot papers will be circulated today to the 78,000 members of the Social Democratic Party to collect their views on the method of electing the party leader, on the representation of women on the council of the party, and for the ratification of the draft party constitution.

There is anextra ballot paper seeking approval for bringing forward the date of electing the leader from November to June, 1982.

Members are asked to choose between three methods of electing the leader: 1. If there is more than one nomination, the leader should be elected by postal ballot of all members and there should be a mandatory review of the system in three years; 2. The election should be by ballot of the SDP members of Parliament; 3. The leader should be elected, in the case of any election before the next general election, by postal ballot of all members of the SDP, but after the general election it should be by ballot of the SDP MPs.

The area parties sponsoring the options give a summary of their reasons. The Newcastle upon Tyne party, putting forward the first option, say: "The leader will set the direction, style and public image of our party. He or she must have he widest appeal to the party and the country. We believe that 78,000 members are better judges of that than an electoral college of MPs".

The Hounslow party, proposing the second method, says: "The SDP wants to strenghten Parliament. It will not do so by taking the choice of its parliamentary leader out of the hands of members of Parliament." To suggest that the leader, and possible Prime Minister, should be chosen for the MPs by members outside Parliament could lead to a damaging conflict between the party in Parliament and the party in the country, "as happened in the Labour Party".

The Kensington and Chelsea party, proposing the third option, says it accepts the principle that, in the longer term, the MPs should choose the leader. "But that principle is justified only when MPs are properly representative of the whole party. After the next general election... our SDP MPs will have a just claim to represent the party."

On the question of women's representation, the ballot form offers two choices, one a system where area parties elect one man and one woman to be members of the party council, with extra representation for area parties containing more than three constituencies. The extra members would be of either sex. The other choice is the election of members without reference to sex.

A leading article in today's issue of *Liberal News*, the Liberal Party's weekly journal, deplores the "distasteful jostling" which is going on within the SDP leadership. "The election of a leader for the SDP is entirely a matter for them", it states.

Local polls challenge, page 2

Firm seeks to regain factory

By Clifford Webb

Massey Ferguson will apply to the High Court today for an order to regain possession of its Coventry tractor plant from striking pickets who have barricaded themselves inside and refused to admit management and staff for the past week.

Summons were served on shop stewards and members of the strike committee at the factory gates yesterday. A company representative also announced through a loud hailer that application was being made to a judge in chambers today under Order 113 of the Rules of the Supreme Court. That deals with the recovery of premises from squatters. None of the unions involved is likely to contest the company's action.

It will be the third time in seven years that the Canadian-owned company has had to go to court to recover Europe's biggest tractor plant from worker occupation. In 1975 the management were shut out for six weeks before the strikers were ejected.

Mine strike threat to save pit

By Paul Routledge

Industrial action that could spread throughout the mining industry is being planned over the fate of a single pit in the militant Kent coalfield.

Area leaders of the National Union of Mineworkers have drawn up plans for an immediate 24-hour strike if the National Coal Board does not approve a £3m development scheme to keep open Snowdown colliery.

Snowdown, which employs 850 men producing 300,000 tonnes a year of valuable coking coal, was one of 23 pits scheduled for closure under the coal board's accelerated shutdown programme that was abandoned a year ago in the face of a national strike threat.

Coal board mining engineers agreed then to investigate possible reserves below the existing seam, which is nearing exhaustion, and they have discovered a rich measure ranging from 5ft to 8ft in thickness, just 40yds farther down.

An application to go into those reserves will be considered on April 22, and the miners hope that the development scheme will be approved. If it is not, and the pit is put back on the closure list, Kent area miners will stop for on an undisclosed date to attend "action meetings" at which proposals to extent the stoppage will be discussed, and almost certainly approved.

Mr Jack Collins, secretary of the Kent area, made clear yesterday that an extended stoppage in the coalfield would be spread rapidly to other areas through flying pickets.

Kent miners will also seek the sacking of the union's national executive under its new *president*, Mr Arthur Scargill, who was elected on a "no pit closure for economic reasons" ticket. Miner's sponsored MPs would also be asked to give their support.

The miners of Kent are the first to attempt to halt the coal board's closure programme at local level.

Labour group praise for TUC Europe view

By George Clark

The prospects of Labour's policy on withdrawal from the European Community being influenced by the more realistic attitude now being adopted by the TUC general council are discussed in a pamphlet, *Labour Prejudices and Reality*, published yesterday by the Labour Movement for Europe.

Mr Denis Howell, MP for Birmingham, Small Heath, and Labour frontbench spokesman on the environment and sport, says in a preface that as the research departments of the party and of the TUC begin to assemble the facts, a disturbing difference of approach is found.

"Labour gives the impression of rushing in with every intention of justifying the decisions already taken," he writes. "Fortunately, the TUC seems to be asking all the right questions about options and alternatives, so essential if we are to state with clarity and conviction the means by which British jobs can be maintained and British prosperity assured after we have left the EEC."

The pamphlet argues that withdrawal could push unemployment up to five million, due to a loss of export trade and of investments, and disagrees with the claim by Labour opponents of the EEC that Labour must take Britain out of the Community if it is to pursue the alternative economic strategy. "These arguments are based on ignorance, xenophobia and a blind refusal to accept facts," it states.

Mr Howell emphasozes that the Labour Movement for Europe is committed to comradeship and partnership with all democratic socialists in Europe. "It is now clear form the policies being pursued in France that our economic programme in no way conflicts with our membership of the EEC", he states. The group's greatest misgivings are about settling these issues in the course of an election campaign. "If ever there was a recipe for disaster, it is this," Mr Howell says.

Discussing the TUC's attitude, the panphley points out that the general council had said that its study would "examine in detail the scope for radical amendments to the Treaty [of Rome] in order to change the deirection of the Community".

"That is vastly different from simply supporting withdrawal", the pamphlet states. Extracts of the council's report, which had already appeared, argued against any precipitate action, and contradicted many of the assertions in the Labour Party document, *Withdrawal from the EEC*.

That document had skated round the fact that nearly 60 per cent of British exports now go to Community countries as against 45 per cent in 1978, and that West Germany was Britain's biggest single customer. Cutting British industry off from this market, "at a stroke", could be devastating.

"The NEC, in its yearning for a return to the days when the Empire was able to provide us with that we wanted for very little money, is living in cloud cuckoo land", the pamphlet states. "The TUC is more realistic, noting that the disparity between Community prices and world prices is not as great as it once was; and pointing out that there would be substantial *difficulties in* returning to the position where Britain enjoyed relatively cheap supplies of food from the Commonwealth."

Labour Prejudice and Reality (Labour Movement for Europe, 1A Whitehall Place, London, SW1, 50p.)

Co-op faces boycott for hunting ban

By Hugh Clayton
Environment Correspondent

The British Shooting Sports Council decided yesterday to boycott all shops, bank branches and other trade outlets in the Co-operative movement. Voting at the closed meeting in Westminster, London, was unanimous.

The boycott was designed as a gesture of support to hunts which face growing pressure from their opponents. Mr John Farr, Conservative MP for Harborough and chairman of the council, believes that all rural sports that involve killing are at risk.

The National Rifle Association was the only one of the 11 member organizations of the council not to attend yesterday's meeting. The others all supported Mr Farr's emergency motion calling for a ban.

The boycott was aimed at the Co-operative movement because of a ban on hunting which will be imposed in June on the 30,000 acres of land owned by the Co-operative Wholesale Society. A spokesman at the headquarters of the society in Manchester said that the boycott would be misplaced because the Co-operative Bank and the 170 retail societies which owned all of the movement's shops were independent of the wholesale society. Some of the retail societies owned rural land which would not be affected by the hunting ban to be imposed by the wholesale society.

The wholesale society had received letters from supporters of the hunting *ban* who said that they would increase their custom at Co-operative shops, the spokesman said. The ban does not apply to shooting rights on Co-op farmland.

The decision to mount a boycott indicates growing fear among supporters of rural sports that they have failed to meet the challenge posed by organizations like the the League Against Cruel Sports. The league has campaigned successfully for bans on hunting on land owned by Berkshire County Council and failed narrowly last week to win a ban in the heartland of foxhunting in Leicestershire.

'Disastrous' to reduce junior doctors' posts

By Annabel Ferriman, Health Services Corresondent

A reorganization of the health service so that all patients were looked after by consultants and there were fewer junior hospital doctors, would be as disastrous for the services as the last reorganization in 1974, the Royal College of Physicians said yesterday.

The number of hospital consultants should be increased but not at the expense of junior doctor posts, as the Government was planning, a report from the college said.

Government plans to cut junior hospital doctors, if implemented, would mean that family doctors, who have to work for a period in hospital before becoming general practitioners, would not be properly trained in children's medicine because there would not be the training posts available.

With fewer junior staff, consultants would also have to endure indefinitely the restrictions on personal life that juniors accepted for a limited period in order to become fully trained and experienced.

The college was replying to the Short report, produced by the parliamentary social services select committee, which recommended doubling the number of hospital consultants and an immediate freeze on some junior doctor posts, when vacated, the report said.

Sir Douglas Black, president of the Royal College, predicted yesterday that the Government, which has accepted the Short report, would implement only those parts which would save money. The result would be fewer junior doctors but no more consultants.

Senior house officer posts in hospitals had been frozen yet the recommendation of the college's Manpower Advisory Panel that the number of consultants should go up in 1982/83 by 118 has been cut to 10-15 posts by the health authorities and the Department of Health and Social Security.

Sir Douglas said that the college was critical of the "simplistic" view that junior posts could be frozen and converted into senior posts. There had to be sufficient juniors to filter into the senior posts, he said.

Reporter at war HQ protest cleared

From Our Correspondent, Stockport

A young woman press reporter who watched as peace demonstrators made a late night raid on a nuclear war bunker, was cleared of criminal involvement with them at Stockport Magistrates' Court yesterday. Mr Rhys Vaughan, her solicitor, said it was an important case of press freedom. "Her purpose was to report and observe; she as just doing her job", he said.

Miss Elizabeth McCallum, aged 24 of Egerton Road, Manchester, chief reporter of the *Withington Reporter* in Manchester, denied damaging an eight ft wire fence at a wartime headquarters belonging to Greater Manchester Council at Mill Lane, Cheadle, Stockport, last December. The damage was estimated at £188.

Mr Roger Newsome, for the prosecution, said that perimeter fencing was cut and the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament symbol and the words: "They will be safe — you will be dead" were sprayed in paint on the wall of the bunker.

Four demonstrators had previously appeared, pleaded guilty and been fined £100 each at an earlier hearing.

Mr Newsome said Miss McCallum knew beforehand that damage was going to be committed, she travelled to the scene of the crime with one of the previous defendants and was present while the damage was done. In her handbag, later found in a demonstrator's car, was a typewritten draft "news bulletin" of what was about to happen.

Mr Vaughan said: "The prosecution have tried, in my submission vainly to establish that this young woman was a participant in the damage. They seek to say the fact that she went there in the car with someone involved and that she had met them in a pub is evidence of intent and participation. And it is not evidence of either.

"The report, she was preparing for the press; she was there to do a job as a reporter. It's a very important case not only for this woman, but for the general principles concerning the freedom of the press.

"The prosecution are trying to say she can't do her job as a reporter. A reporter, who goes to the scene of a crime, albeit knowing it was going to be committed, stands and observes it being committed and does a draft report on those facts — is that an offence?

Many reporters are present and are tipped off beforehand that a potentially illegal act is going to be committed. We are concerned with the basic principles of press freedom. The public have the right to accurate information and fair comment. She was reporting the event as accurately as she could. She was exercising her right to do that in a democratic society."

Pensioners' benefit risk

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

Pensioners are most likely to be forced into hardship by the new rules disqualifying anyone from receiving supplementary benefit if they have more than £2,000 in capital. That was disclosed yesterday in the report of the Supplementary Benefit Policy Inspectorate on the effects of the new rule.

Six of every 10 people who had their benefit stopped under the new rule were pensioners who lost between £1 and over £30 a week in benefit. The typical pensioner cut off from benefit by the new rule was aged over 70, female and living alone.

Most of the pensioners affected had savings only marginally above the £2,000 cut-off point, nearly half of them less than £2,500, which is to be the new limit from November this year. Most of the pensioners affected used their capital to manage on their reduced incomes, while nearly one-third claimed rent and rate rebates instead. But 14 per cent simply made no response at all mostly because they did not understand that other benefits could be claimed.

Report of the Supplementary Benefits Policy Inspectorate on the effects of the new capital rule. (DHSS, £1.60).

CORRECTION

Mr William Rees-Davies MP states that Judge Pickles in a case, reported on March 31, in which two families were awarded damages for an abandoned holiday at a villa on Corfu, accepted that the contract was based entirely on a brochure and did not find that Mr Rees-Davies had described the villa as "the best on the island".

Overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 28; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B frs 40; Canada $2.50; Canaries Pes 125; Cyprus 550 mils; Denmark Dkr 7; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland Mkk 7.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 80; Holland Gl 3.25; Iran IR 135; Iraq ID 0.500; Irish Republic 50p; Italy L 1800; Jordan LD 0.425; Kuwait KD 0.500; Lebanon Ll 4.00; Luxembourg Lf 33; Madeira Esc 75; Malta 30c; Morocco Dir 7; Norway Kr 7.50; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rps 12; Portugal Esc 90; Qatar QR 7.50; Saudi Arabia SR 4.50; Singapore $5.00; Spain Pes 125; Sweden Skr 8.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Syria L$5.50; Tunisia Dir 0.600; USA $1.50; UAE Dir 7.00; Yugoslavia Din 50.

Democrats ballot on election method

By George Clark

Ballot papers will be circulated today to the 70,000 members of the Social Democratic Party ...

... to reduce ...rs' posts

CORRECTION

Exhumation could clear man jailed for murder

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The Home Office is considering an application for exhumation to help to prove whether a prisoner serving a life sentence is innocent of murder, as he claims.

New evidence in a BBC programme tonight indicates that Mervyn Jock Russell, an unemployed squatter, "almost certainly" did not commit the crime for which he was convicted in 1977.

The exhumation, which is requested by Mr Tom Sargant, secretary of Justice, the law reform society, is of Michael Molnar, who had a long police record and is now increasingly suspect. He died six months after the murder and before Russell was tried.

The programme, *Rough Justice* on BBC 1, says that the police and experts agreed that 22 strands of hair grabbed by the murder victim, Jane Bigwood, an art student, could have come only from the killer who stabbed her at her home in Deptford, London.

Four strands were dark, the rest grey or colourless. They are said not to match Russell's. But Molnar's hair is described as long and grey.

Exhumation would allow forensic tests to see if the hair the girl grabbed was really his. The Home Office has asked Scotland Yard to make inquiries to see whether action by Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, is called for.

Russell lived in another wing of the same block of flats as Jane Bigwood and Molnar, a Hungarian vagrant. He had no record of violence.

Other key evidence is also questioned. A man seen by a witness escaping through a window was wearing a waistcoat. Russell, seen in a public house before and after the time of murder was not wearing a waistcoat. Nor was his behaviour untoward. But Molnar, according to people he lived with, wore a waistcoat "all the time" and he had no alibi the night of the murder.

The murderer's escape jump from a third floor window to the ground could hardly have been made by an untrained man without injury, according to an expert parachutist. Russell was said to have had damaged ankles beforehand and showed no sign of abnormal injury afterwards.

The programme quotes evidence suggesting that Molnar, alone among possible suspects, might have had parachute training. Forensic evidence suggested the murderer was probably right-handed, whereas Russell is left-handed.

Molnar, who stayed around the flat for a few days after the murder, disappeared the day after the police arrived to interview his flat-mate. A diabetic, Molnar left behind belongings, including insulin and hypodermic needles.

At King's College Hospital, London, where he subsequently obtained treatment, a doctor put in Molnar's report: "His main problem is social and possibly psychotic, he may well have a psychopathic personality."

As a friend of Russell's, with whom he used to mend television sets, Molnar knew where the murder weapon, a knife, was.

Russell went to the police 10 days after the murder to see if the knife they had was his. It looked like it, he said, and went to get a friend who also identified it.

Yet if Russell had been the murderer, "it was definitely the time to sit tight", the programme points out. The police clearly had not been able to find the knife owner.

Factors that told against Russell at his trial at the Central Criminal Court were his ownership of the knife and that he was also charged with a wounding attempt on one of his flat-mates the day before the murder. "It appears to have been a minor incident, but it clearly turned the jury against him", the programme says.

He was also reported to be telling "gory stories" about the murder on the morning after. Although his gossip was inaccurate, it told against him and he was convicted and refused leave to appeal.

The Russell case is the first of three in which, in spite of the guilty verdict, doubts persist and are examined in *Rough Justice*, a three-part series.

Labour in tussle over rent freeze

By Anthony Bevins Political Correspondent

Labour's national executive has asked Mr Michael Foot to commit a future Labour government to a one-year rent freeze.

But it is understood that the Labour Leader has failed to win support of Mr Gerald Kaufman, his environment spokesman, and no commitment has been given.

Private pressure for such a move has been mounting at party meetings over the past two months, reaching a climax at Monday's meeting of the executive's home policy committee. Mr John Golding, MP for Newcastle-under-Lyme, joined Mr Dennis Skinner, MP for Bolsover, in a rare display of party unity on the issue, but Mr Foot was said yesterday to have attended the meeting only to report that he had made little headway.

The argument put by Mr Golding was that rents had gone "sky high" under the Conservative Government, it woud be impossible for Labour to increase rents, and a commitment to a freeze would help Labour candidates in the May elections.

Average council house rents in England and Wales rose from £5.90 to £6.48 a week between 1978-79 and 1979-80, just 1 per cent. Between 1979-80 and 1980-81, they rose by £1.70, or 26 per cent, and between 1980-81 and 1981-82 they increased by £3.32, or 40 per cent, to £11.50 a week.

In the first year of the 1974 Labour administration, council rents were frozen, and it is being emphasized that that record would give a revived rents freeze policy special credibility. Mr Skinner said yesterday: "It would be unthinkable if we were to get back to office and then raise rents. We should be making this a big political issue".

Nevertheless, no progress has been made since it was first raised at a meeting of the executive's home policy committee, chaired by Mr Wedgwood Benn, two months ago. Mr Skinner said yesterday that Mr Foot had attended this week's meeting of the home policy committee to expalin that he had met resistance to a freeze.

Nick Rogers

The first pure-bred Angora kids to be born in Britain this century exploring the land at the Rare Breed Survival Trust centre at Ash House, Iddesleigh, Devon. The animals were bred under the supervision of Mrs Marriana Rosenberg.

Sanctions on colleges urged in postgraduate reforms

By Diana Geddes Education Correspondent

A radical change in the nature of a PhD in the social sciences, more rigorous selection of postgraduates and the withdrawal of postgraduate awards from universities with unacceptably low PhD completion rates, are called for in a report of a working party on postgraduate education, published by the Government yesterday.

The working party, whose main recommendations were reported in *The Times* last October, was set up nearly three years ago by the Advisory Board for the Research Councils to consider, among other things, how far postgraduate education as funded by the three main research councils was meeting the nation's manpower needs, and whether the present arrangement for post graduate training were appropriate.

The members of the working party, which was chaired by Professor Sir Peter Swinnerton-Dyer, Master of St Catharine's College, Cambridge, and former Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge, included Professor Sir Geoffrey Allen, who was then chairman of the Science and Engineering Research Council (SERC), Dr Edward Parkes, Chairman of the University Grants Committee and Mr John Ashworth, at that time chief government scientist and now Vice-Chancellor of Salford University.

On manpower planning, the working party points out that past attempts to predict needs have not been successful. It believes that manpower planning, as now practised, can make only a peripheral contribution to determining the number and distribution of postgraduate awards. The best surety for meeting the country's needs for skilled manpower, is unremitting attention to the quality of those selected for awards, and of their subsequent training, it says.

In general, the working party believes that the resources put into postgraduate education are well used, and that the country gets good value for money. About £60m a year goes to support 17,000 home postgraduates, all but 1,000 of whom are in universities.

However, the working party is concerned about the average length of time taken to complete a PhD, the wide variation in completion rates between different subjects and the criticisms frequently made of supervision arrangements for students. Research awards are normally granted for a maximum of three years. But recent surveys suggest that, on average, 46 per cent of science students and nearly 70 per cent of social science students have not completed their PhDs after five years. Completion rates for the same subject in different institutions varied enormously, the working party found, and seemed to bear no relation to the distinction of the university.

The working party calls for a series of graded sanctions against universities with unacceptably low completion rates, starting with the requirement that the student has a designated supervisor and a clearly defined research topic before an award is made, and culminating in the complete withdrawal of all research awards from that university.

The working party recommends that three years remain the normal maximum for postgraduate support, but calls for a check at the end of the first year to see whether a student is fit to continue with research training.

It also calls for a radical change in requirements for a PhD in the social sciences. At present the standard applied to a social science thesis is higher than that applied to a science thesis.

The report suggests that some new degree in the social sciences should be introduced, possibly called a PhD or some other name, which would be accepted as a certificate of satisfactory completion of a three-year course of research training, without the student necessarily having to produce a written thesis. The working party believes, however, that a written thesis in the sciences is essential.

□ Introducing the report in London yesterday, Sir Peter said there were several reasons for the low PhD completion rates: the ethos of some university departments; the lack of diligence among supervisors; and the size of the project undertaken by the student, particularly in the social sciences (Frances Gibb writes).

"The completion rates in the social sciences vary markedly. Some universities are doing better than others; but the best universities (in the social sciences) are doing worse than the worst universities in the natural sciences, which does represent a worry", he said.

Professor John Kingman, new chairman of the Science and Engineering Research Council, added that the standards of PhDs was now far higher than in decades past. There was now a tendency, he said, to demand more. Another reason for poor completion rates was that students were simply not good enough at those skills needed to do a research degree.

Report of the Working Party on Post Graduate Education Advisory Board for the Research Councils. (Stationery Office, £7).

NEWS IN SUMMARY

'Back yard bobbies' to be recruited

Back yard "bobbies" are to be recruited to help regular policemen on the beat. Northumbria police announced testerday plans to appoint 750 unpaid special constables who would patrol their own home areas (our Newcastle upon Tyne correspondent writes).

The scheme is aimed at improving the police's community relations while helping to fight crime.

Application forms for men and women wishing to join the new volunteer force have been issued to police stations throughout the area. Recruits will be issued with a uniform and receive out of pocket expenses.

They will be assigned to regular police officers patrolling their own home beats who will direct them on anything form murder hunts to catching vandals.

Chief Supt Paul Whitehouse, the officer in charge of police community services, said: "We are looking for people who want to help their own community. What they will be doing is policing their own back yard".

Slashed pony left to die

The police in Dunstable believe that a pony left to bleed to death after its jugular vein was slashed could be the latest in a series of attacks on family pets. Four months ago another pony had a screwdriver hammered into its head.

Yesterday's victim was found dead when her owner, Heather Croft aged 17, of Buttercup Close, Dunstable, went to her stable. Mr Joe Lawton, whose field housed five other ponies said "It was a terrible sight."

Suspended term for ex-nurse

A former superintendent nurse at a centre for mentally handicapped children who admitted eight charges of ill-treating children in her care was given a six-month sentence, suspended for a year, at Wolverhampton Crown Court on Monday.

Ten of the charges which she denied will lie on the file, it was agreed. Judge Ward told Susan Wilkes, aged 30, of Bridge Street, Brownhills, near Walsall, West Midlands, that he had considered an immediate proson sentence but said it would offend his sense of justice to fail her for offences, most of which were nearly three years old.

Duvets pass fire safety test

Health authorities that want continental quilts used in hospitals to save nurses' time have been told by the Department of Health and Social Security that four types have passed fire safety checks at the Shirley Institute, Manchester.

The department is still not encouraging the use of quilts, both because of the additional fire risk and because they are considered harder to launder than traditional bedding.

Force cleared by inquiry

The Northampton police force has been cleared of allegations of misconduct against it after a two-month inquiry by Mr Adrian Clissitt, Chief Constable of Hertfordshire, who was brought in by the county council's police committee. The allegations, made in February, have not been made public.

Mr Charles Grimmer, police authority chairman, said yesterday that the report showed no evidence to support any criminal charge, nor did it disclose any need for disciplinary action.

Monks move into prison cells

Three monks are being locked into cells in Shepton Mallet prison, Avon, this week to help them to learn how prisoners live. They are let out of their cells each morning and, joined by three nuns, allowed to roam the prison blocks, which house 260 men.

The brothers and sisters, a Franciscan mission team, spend most of the day with the prisoners, having meals with them, visiting the prison workshops and taking part in their recreational facilities.

£40m scheme in heart of Glasgow

From Jonathan Wills Glasgow

A £40m scheme to redevelop a derelict area in the heart of Glasgow could provide 2,500 long-term jobs, according to a detailed planning application submitted to Glasgow District Council yesterday by Scottish Development Agency.

Unveiling a scale model of the plan for St Enoch's Square, Mr Robin Duthie, chairman of the agency, said that the development would inject new life into the centre of Glasgow.

It was one of the finest city centre sites in Europe and would provide superb facilities in a complex to rival any in the world.

Detailed plans for the western section of the 16-acre site include a shopping complex, offices, parking, an ice rink and other leisure facilities, and an extensive public square.

The eastern part of the development, for which detailed planning permission has yet to be sought, will include about 140 private flats, an hotel and a multi-storey car park.

Mr Duthie said the agency was acting as controller rather than funder for the project. The money would come from private institutions, taking purely commercial decisions based on anticipated rentals for this site, although he hoped that Strathclyde Regional Council would pay for much of the parking space.

Dicussions with potential investors were well advanced, he said. Mr Duthie was optimistic in the face of doubts about the need for more hotels and chain stores in a city well provided with both. He said the St Enoch's development would draw people back to the centre of Glasgow and would actually increase the market.

The architecture of the new centre is likely to cause controversy in a city noted for its fine Victorian and Edwardian buildings.

In contrast to the Gothic splendour of the decrepit St Enoch's Hotel, which was demolished to make way for the present wasteland car park, the new design is uncompromisingly modern and severely functional.

Much of it will be enclosed under a glass structure resembling a gigantic L-shaped lean-to greenhouse. The "brutality" school of modern architecture, which offends connoisseurs of Glasgow's nineteenth century buildings, is much evidence in other parts of the development.

The architects are confident, however, that the exciting building in St Enoch's Square will achieve the same massive public patronage in Glasgow as the equally uncompromising Pompidou centre has had in Paris.

Channel tunnel 'could lose up to £300m'

By Michael Baily, Transport Correspondent

The British and French governments were given a warning yesterday against embarking on a "submerged Concorde" in the form of a Channel tunnel that would make heavy losses against cut-price ferry competition.

Ferry fares could drop by a third as the big moderm ships now on stream fill up and the case for a tunnel could be undermined, a new study by the Oxford University Transport Studies Unit carried out for the Channel port and ferry companies, says.

A tunnel scheme could lose up to £300m plus inflation by the year 2010 and far from creating employment, could cause a permanent loss of 2,000 jobs in Kent, the study suggests.

This fresh attack comes as the Anglo-French working party prepares to announce its choice of scheme amid fears that time is short for a start in the lifetime of this Government.

Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, had hoped to announce the Anglo-French choice last month, but that is not now expected until after Easter. That puts more pressure on the tight timetable if, as is deemed necessary, legislation is to be included in the Queen's Speech in November, after further intensive planning and technical studies through the summer. Mr Howell has been careful to emphasize that continued reliance on ferries and aircraft is one of the options considered.

Apart from a bridge, which might just stay in the black, investors should be very wary of putting their money in a fixed link, Sir William Harris, chairman of the Dover Harbour Board said yesterday while introducing the new study at a London press conference.

A tunnel could be a "financial disaster" and the benefits claimed for it were illusory, he said. Future traffic at 35 million passengers a year in 2010 compared with 12 million now could be carried comfortably by ferries at a fraction of the cost and in greater comfort and safety.

Immigration falls to 9-year low

By Frances Gibb

The total number of people accepted for settlement in the United Kingdom last year was 58,000, about 11,500 lower than the total for the two previous years and the lowest annual total since 1973, according to Government immigration statistics published on Monday.

27,500 Commonwealth citizens were accepted, of whom 6,500 were from India; 5,800 from Bangladesh; 2,400 from Australia, 2,000 from New Zealand; and 2,800 were United Kingdom passport holders.

Of the 30,900 foreign nationals accepted, 8,900 were Pakistani nationals; 3,500 were citizens of the United States, 3,100 were refugees from South-east Asia and 2,200 were nationals from within the EEC.

Fewer people were accepted for settlement on arrival last year. The total was 27,650, the lowest figure since records were started in 1962.

The Home Office statistical bulletin, *"Immigration from the Indian Sub-Continent"*, also published on Monday, says that from 1976-81, about one third of those accepted for settlement were from the Indian sub-continent and they were mainly dependants of people already settled in Britain.

Control of Immigration Statistics, United Kingdom, 1982, Comnd 8533, Stationery Office (£5.25).

Extradition for US road death trial rejected

Miss Gail Jennings, aged 21, of Lymington, Hampshire, won an appeal in the High Court in London yesterday, against extradition to the United States to answer charges arising from a road accident in which a boy cyclist, aged 13, died.

She returned to Britain in 1978, having been granted bail in Californian. Her appeal was against an order of Bow Street magistrates in London for her extradition to stand trial in Los Angeles on charges including driving while under the influence of drink and causing the boy's death "without malice but with gross negligence".

Lord Justice Ormrod and Mr Justice Forbes ruled that the offences were not sufficiently grave to warrant extradition under the terms of the 1972 extradition treaty with the United States.

Refusing leave to appeal to the Lords, Lord Justice Ormrod said it would be deplorable if the case was taken further.

Counsel for the Los Angeles District Attorney, however, said leave to appeal would be sought from the House of Lords' appeal committee.

Lord Justice Ormrod said it was the first time an application had been made for an offence of causing death by driving a motor vehicle. It had to be established whether, on the evidence, it would have been justifiable to commit Miss Jennings for trial on a charge of manslaughter, had the accident taken place in England.

The stipendiary magistrate had not properly considered whether a jury would convict on the charges.

J. P. R. Williams wins libel action against 'Sun'

J. P. R. Willams, the former Welsh rugby captain, accepted undisclosed damages yesterday in settlement of his High Court Libel action against *The Sun* over allegations that he breached his amateur status in relation to the proceeds of his autobiography.

Last February, a jury awarded Mr Williams £20,000 libel damages over a similar allegation in *The Daily Telegraph*.

Yesterday *The Sun* apologized to Mr Williams "should any of their readers have gained a false impression." Mr Charles Gray, counsel for the newspaper told Mr Jutice Park in London: "The purpose in publishing this article was to draw the public's attention to what the defendants believed, and still believe, was a breach of the amateur rules of rugby by Mr Williams, albeit uninten-tionally, and the article was published in good faith."

Mr Williams, Wales's most capped player who was made an MBE in 1977, had sued Mr Ian Todd, a journalist, Sir Harry Lamb, the former editor of *The Sun*, and News International, the publishers.

Mr Thomas Shields, counsel for Mr Williams said an article by Mr Todd published in February 1979 suggested



J. P. R. Williams Awarded undisclosed damages

that Mr Williams, who was then captain of the Welsh team, had acted improperly and in a devious manner in relation to the proposed remuneration for his book, which was then about to be published.

"Shortly after the publication of this article, the Welsh Rugby Union held an investigation into Mr Williams's conduct and concluded that no breach of the amateur rules had taken place."

Mr Williams, an othopaedic surgeon, had given the proceeds of his book to a sports clinic foundation.

Police must police themselves

By our Home Affairs Correspondent

No complaints system can on its own create or maintain public confidennce that the police are exercising their powers responsibly, without unnecessary violence but with civility, the annual report of the Police Complaints Board, said yesterday. The primary responsibility must remain with the police, and the public must be reassured about that. There are types of complaint where public confidence might be increased by an independent element in the investigation process.

The board's warning comes as the government considers changes in the system after the Scarman report into the Brixton riots.

It would be a "considerable step in the wrong direction", if the responsibility for receiving and investigating complaints was removed from the police altogether, the report says.

During 1981, the board received reports of investigations into 7,348 cases, compared with 7,416 in 1980.

Report of the Police Complaints Board 1981. House of Commons Paper 275. (Stationery Office, £3.20p).

Cash plea to preserve wildlife

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

The Nature Conservancy Council complained yesterday that it could not afford to safeguard exceptional wildlife habitats from development and intensive farming.

"At present resources are massively stacked against conservation," the council said in an unusually sharp preface to its annual report.

The council, a quango which reports to the Department of the Environment, said it would need an extra £20m over the next 10 years to meet its legal obligation to keep endangered sites in their wild state.

"At present we are obliged to respond to threats as they arise, and cannot always afford to protect sites," the council said. The impact of inadequate funding had been felt on Romney Marsh, in East Sussex where the council could not afford to buy more than 250 acres which the owner intended to drain. The area contained rare birds and frogs

The protest in the report supports the fear of independent conservation groups that the council will be unable to meet its enlarged role under new wildfile laws to pay farmers not to make landscape changes that destroy or damage important habitats.

Some sites of exceptional scientific interest had been destroyed with the help of government grants to aid agricultural improvement, the council declared.

Nature Conservancy Council Seventh Report (Stationery Office, £4).

FALKLANDS CRISIS/1

Admiral pins his faith on air superiority

By Henry Stanhope Defence Correspondent

Air superiority could be crucial in determining any confrontation between the Royal Navy task force and the Argentine forces in the Falkland Isles. Achieving it, however, could present Rear-Admiral John Woodward and his senior commanders with their greatest problems.

The task force will have an estimated 20 Sea Harrier jets, 12 in HMS Hermes and eight in Invincible. The Argentines have one aircraft carrier, the elderly 25th of May which has a peacetime complement of 14 A4 Skyhawks — but will probably have more on board from its reserve in the event of a naval battle.

The Harrier is technically a small offensive aircraft, with a performance constrained by the sacrifices made to enable it to take off and land vertically. On the oher hand the Navy, like the RAF, launch Harriers from a short take-off. They also have the advantage of the ski-jump, the ramp in the bows which gives the aircraft extra lift into the air.

In the context of an isolated sea battle the Harrier offers the Navy a great deal — and its potential as a ground attack aircraft in support of an amphibious landing, is indicated by its adoption by the United States Marines.

The Navy has the latest Sea Dart area air defence missile which is installed on HMS Invincible and three Sheffield class destroyers in the force. Other ships including three of the four Leander frigates and two Amazon class frigates, which are believed to be with the force, have the older, shorter range Seacat.

But the Argentines have two Sheffield class anti-aircraft destroyers of their own — with Sea Dart on board — sold by Britain in the kind of deal which might have made economic sensa at the time. Their light cruiser, which is on station there, is also equipped with 70 or so Seacats. So to some extent, like is facing like — even if Royal Navy sailors, being all-professional, should have more expertise in using their anti-aircraft weapons.

The chief difficulty for Admiral Woodward, however, is that the Argentine coast is only about 400 miles from Port Stanley, while Britain is 8,000 miles away. This puts any naval battle within range of the Argentine Air Force's 68 Skyhawks, which have an average tactical radius of action of around 700 miles, and its squadron of 19 Mirage interceptors with a similar range.

This would not provide the Argentine Navy with additional air cover if they engaged the British in the area of South Georgia, about 800 miles to the south-east. But this would seem unlikely anyway. Current thinking is that the British task force, 3,500 miles away from its "forward" base on Ascension Island, will make first for South Georgia where the current crisis first erupted, in the hope of securing a foothold in the South Atlantic.

From there, they would then mount their assault first on the Argentine Navy and then, all being well, on the Falklands themselves which means in effect Port Stanley.

The Sea Harriers would probably be needed to provide air cover for the Royal Marines and other troops as they storm ashore — if the worst comes to the worst. That would leave the Navy's surface-to-air missiles (SAMs) to protect the carriers and other warships from the avenging Skyhawks from the Argentine mainland. Meanwhile the effectiveness of Argentine carrier-borne aircraft might be neutralized by action taken against the carrier itself by hunter-killer subarines.

Gales and ice ahead

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The task force is sailing into a stormy part of the ocean at the worst time of the year. Although the main islands of East and West Falkland, separated by a 25 miles-wide strait are at about the same latitude in the southern hemisphere as London is in the northern half, the climate is more severe. Ice could be encountered at South Georgia.

Conditions at sea are similar to those in the North Atlantic Approaches off the Outer Hebrides, but the weather is colder. The latitude of the Falklands, and 200 small islands scattered around, is between 51 degrees and 53 degrees south.

Most of them miss the full force of the Roaring Forties which sweep across the middle latitudes of the south. Nevertheless a persistent wind of about 15 knots blows even at the best time of the year. The frequency of gale force winds and heavy seas increases as winter approaches at the end of April.

If the area of operations extends as far as South Georgia, the crews would begin to feel the main effects of the Antarctic convergence. Although pack ice does not extend as far as South Georgia, the bays of that island ice over early in winter. But the coastline of the main islands is deeply indented and provides many secure and sheltered anchorages. Those natural harbours were used in preparation for one of the principal battles of the First World War. The battle of the Falklands between a British squadron commanded under Vice-Admiral Sir Doveton Sturdee and a German squadron under Vice-Admiral Graf von Spey, was a reprisal by the British for earlier losses at sea.

For this second encounter, two battle cruisers, Invincible and Inflexible, were detached secretly from the Grand Fleet in the North Sea to reinforce the British squadron in the South Atlantic. All but one of the German squadron was sunk.



Defiant gesture: A confident Falkland Islander under the Argentine flag

The task force sails on

Carrier crew to get smell of cordite

From John Witherow, on board HMS Invincible, April 6

Part of the British naval force bound for the Falkland Islands rendezvoused in the South Western Approaches today while HMS Invincible, the anti-submarine carrier, started to bring its Harrier jets and Sea King helicopters to full operational capacity.

HMS Fearless, the assault shop carrying Marines and Commodore Michael Clapp, overall commander of this section of the fleet, sailed from Portsmouth and was due to join the force within the next day of so. Some frigates and supply vessels were already with Invincible and the flagship HMS Hermes, but the Navy was reluctant to publicize details of the force.

Once the ships have assembled they will head tonight in the direction of the Azores to meet the rest of the fleet which is sailing for Ascension Island from operations off Gibraltar.

Preparations on aboard Invincible, which has been sold to the Australians and is due next year, continued with vertical take-off Harrier jets practising mock combat and evading "enemy" radar systems by skimming in low over the waves. For some of the pilots it is their time on board the ship and they have been accustoming themselves to landing on a platform while still within range of mainland bases.

To facilitate operations the carrier circled at only a few a knots in calm about 100 miles south of the Scilly Isles while last-minute supplies were flown on board by helicopter.

Captain Jeremy Black, aged 50, addressed the crew after a full-scale practice emergency and outlined the respective strengths of the British and Argentian fleets, the route the ship would be following and the type of preparations to be undertaken as the carrier headed for the South Atlantic.

The mood among the crew and especially the Harrier pilots is one of jubilant optimism. To say they are spoiling for a fight would be an exaggeration but they are nonetheless ready and prepared for it and feel the islands should be regained by whatever means necessary.

"It's what we're trained to do", one officer commented. Lieutenant-Commander Nigel "Sharky" Ward, in charge of 801 Harrier Squadron, said they were undertaking a full training programme to give some new pilots practice in supporting a marine landing and entering air combat. "That is our bread and butter", he said. "It is what we are best at. We are dead keen to go and very confident.

"That has to be balanced by the fact there will be a few butterflies in our stomachs when we get up there on the flight deck and there will be a lot of aggro in the air".

Harrier pilots trained against US 'aggressors' in Britain and Sardinia

He said they had trained against a United States "aggressor" squadron flying F5s in Britain and Sardinia and had "wiped the table". But he was aware that the margin for error in modern jet fights was extremely small: "If a pilot gets it wrong for one or two seconds he's a dead man. The Harrier can bite back if you don't fly it properly".

The strain of flying such sophisticated aircraft at sea showed on the faces of the pilots as they returned for debriefing. One man, Lieutenant Mike Watson, had just made a perfect landing for the first time at sea and his relief was evident.

Armed with heat-seeking Sidewinder missiles and cannon, the Harriers intend to fire at least one missile near the carrier. "We're going to get them used to bangs going of around the ship," Commander Ward added. "The captain wants the crew to get used to the smell of cordite".

Meanwhile the Sea King squadron was practising take-offs and landings on the flight deck and approaches to the ship. Both Harriers and helicopters are keen to do some night flying at this early stage but the Sea Kings, designed to seek and destroy enemy submarines, are not yet triaining with torpedoes and depth charges. About a third of the helicopter crews have joined from other squadrons and are taking time to accustom themselves to the Invincible.

Captain Black told journalists that the fleet's progress south would depend upon decisions taken by the Foreign and Defence Ministries but they intended to proceed at something under 18 knots strung out between 100 and 200 miles. That would enable Invincible and Hermes to train their aircraft against one another out of radar range and allow the smaller vessels to keep up.

Navy's biggest headache is replenishing supplies from a base 4,000 mles away.

One important factor preoccupying the task force is the necessity for replenishment of supplies. "To conduct operations 4,000 miles from the nearest base is quite a thing to do", the captain said. The fleet will be accompanied by a number of supply vessels and there are plalns to send out relief craft but it is undoubtedly a problem exercizing the minds of Naval Command.

The captain sees the present period of training as a time to get the ships to full fighting capacity and to make some adjustments. "We are a navy who tend to train against a Russian threat and here we see some slight changes of emphasis. The sort of thing I am talking about is a matter of detail but nonetheless important."

He said the ship was capable of coping with chemical or nuclear contaminated zones by sealing itself and building up a higher air pressure inside and was well equipped to cope with flooding.

There has been an unofficial change in the identification of lifejackets aboard ship. A notice in the flying clothing store reads: "Due to the untimely death of *Mae West* all Mark II, 15 and 25 life preservers will be now known as Dolly Partons".

Underneath someone has scribbled: "or, Erika Roes".

☐ HMS Fearless, the assault ship which will spearhead any attempt to regain the Falkland Islands, yesterday gathered her brood of landing craft like ducklings under her wing and moved out from Portsmouth to join the task force (Stewart Tendler writes).

On a cold, wet and windswept day there was little sign of the thousands who watched Invincible and Hermes leave on Monday. But as Fearless nosed out of the dockyards, her siren booming across the water, people began to appear on the harbour walls. Many were mothers and wives, some of them openly in tears.

For there was no doubting Fearless's bellicose appearance. The decks were lined with men form the 580-strong crew while aft there were ranks of Marines dressed in battle fatigues. In their midst were ranged field and anti-tanks guns, part of the equipment for a Marine force of 500-700 men on the ship.

General's gamble

Retreat could cost Galtieri his job

By Peter Strafford

Argentina is a potentially rich country with enormous natural resources, as almost every Argentine is aware. But it has suffered badly from misgovernment, both civilian and military, in recent years, and the result is that it has failed to fulfil the promise which it showed earlier this century.

General Leopoldo Galtieri, who came to power last December in a bloodless coup within the regime, is only the latest in a long line of military men who have taken the view that they know what is best for the country. His declared objective, like those of his immediate predecessors, is to reverse the decline and begin a process of national reconstruction.

The difference is that he has decided to set about it in a flamboyant and adventurous style. He clearly sees the invasion of the Falklands, which almost all Argentines regard as being properly theirs, as being a popular issue.

If he pulls it off, he will have succeeded in distracting attention, at least for a time, from the economic hardships now afflicting the country. If he is forced to withdraw, he will suffer a humiliting setback, which will not be forgiven either by Argentine public opinion or by his fellow members of the armed forces, who could be counted on to try to remove him from power.

The present military regime took power in 1976 at a time of exceptional disorder in Argentina. Strong, well armed and well financed guerrilla groups were active in many parts of the country; and the economy was in ruins, with inflation reaching 54 per cent in a single month and the currency reserves reduced to almost nothing.

The tottering government of President Maria Estela Perón, widow of Juan Perón, was plainly unequal to the task of running the country, and the intervention of the armed forces, headed by General Rafael Videla, was widely welcomed.

On the ecomomic front the new military government had some success, initially at least, in restoring normality, boosted by the natural resilience of the Agentine economy. Inflation was brought down, along traditional liberal lines.

But the operations on the other front, against the guerrillas, were more controversial. In the face of an admittedly serious threat, the armed forces made a deliberate decision to wage a "dirty war", in which anyone who was even suspected of sympathies with the guerrillas, or of having any sort of contact with them, was liable to be kidnapped, tortured and killed.

The policy was successful, in that the guerrillas were virtually eliminated from Argentine life. But in the process thouands of people, many of them completely innocent, disappeared and are now presumed to be dead.

In recent years the number of disappearances has dwindled to almost nothing, with the elimination of the guerrilla groups. But the issue remains an active one in Argentine life, since relatives of those who disappeared are maintaining their pressure for information on what happened and regularly demonstrate outside the presidential palace in the Plaza de Mayo.

Since the armed forces took over, there have been no elections and there have been severe restrictions on the activities of political parties and trade unions. The regime maintains, and constantly repeats, its public commitment to a restoration of democracy, but it has avoided committing itself to a precise timetable.

In the last year or two there has, however, been an easing of the political atmosphere. There has been more activity by the parties, which has been reported in the papers, and Geneal Galtieri apparently sees himself as eventually heading some political party or movement which, if all goes well for him, would be swept into office.

But his main problem is the state of the economy, which has been in a severe crisis for the past year. Banks and industrial firms have gone bankrupt, and unemployment has soared to an official level of 500,000 with the true figure perhaps two million — very high for a country of some 27 million and one in which until recently unemployment was hardly known.

Inflation is now at 149 per cent, and the value of the peso has plummeted. White collar workers try to negotiate four pay rises a year, and having two jobs is commonplace.

This state of affairs has led to a resurgence of trade union activity, particularly by the General Confederation of Labour (CGT), which was so powerful in the days of General Peron. Demonstrations were called on March 30, which led to four hours of running battles between the police and demonstrators in Buenos Aires.

In external relations, Argentina has developed cordial relations with the Soviet Union, which buys Argentine grain, sells Soviet goods in return and helps defend Argentina against attacks on its human rights record in United Nations bodies.

The extent of the Soviet link became painfully obvious to Washington when the Argentines refused to go along with the American grain embargo against Moscow after the invasion of Afghanistan. The Reagan administration has made great efforts to mend fences with Buenos Aires, and is clearly embarrassed by the Falklands affair.

Alliance's boat rocked by Steel

By Anthony Bevins
Political Correspondent

Action by Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, to prepare for an early general election over the Falklands crisis last night caused new divisions with the Social Democrats.

It was learnt yesterday that he is to advise party negotiators to speed up their negotiations on the division of parliamentary seats with the Social Democrats, completing the carve-up before the new deadline of April 20.

But this was deplored last night by senior Social Democratic sources who described the move as irresponsible at a time when all parties in the Commons should be seen to be rallying around the Government in its resolve to win back the occupied British territory.

While Mr Steel believes that an ultimate solution may yet have to be built around the possiblity of turning the Falklands into a United Nations dependency, an idea that may yet be extended to Gibraltar and Hongkong, his alliance partners feel most strongly that negotiation should concentrate on a return to British sovereignty.

The Liberals also appear to be less resolute on the issue of force, echoing one Labour line that there can be no blank cheques for the military solution.

The Social Democratic argument is that talk of an early election, United Nations dependency and qualifications to the use of force all help to undermine the Government's position

Oil a key factor in attempts to resolve the crisis

By Michael Frenchman

Oil is now emerging as a key factor in any prospective agreement that might be reached between Britain and Argentina — with United States mediation — for solving the present crisis. For some time now there has been considerable speculation and some wildly exaggerated forecasts as to the extent of potential offshore oil resources.

For the last two years a number of the big international companies have been carrying out exploratory offshore drilling, with encouraging commercial results in some cases. At least three platforms have been drilling off the Argentine coast of Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego. These include the jack-ups Rio Colorado operated by Total, Dominex, and Bridas, Royal Dutch Shell's Interocean 11, and Esso's submersible General Mossoni.

The strikes earlier this year have been made by the Total consortium, which includes the Argentine company Bridas, in a block fairly close to Rio Grande. Preliminary results from the 1 mile deep Aries X-1 will have shown the existence of 1,300 cubic yards of gas a day through a three-quarter inch choke which is considered by oil experts to be significant but it still has to be evaluated fully. Last year Shell and Exxon reported finds of 5,360 barrels a day and 3,100 respectively.

Further exploration has come to a head because of the dispute itself. Atlantic Richfield confirmed last night that it had won a preliminary contract option from the Argentine state oil agency YPT to negotiate prospecting rights in the controversial Magallenes Este offshore block, which straddles what is called the "putative" medium line between the Falkland Islands and the Argentine mainland.

Atlantic Richfield's consortium included Mobil which later dropped out possibly because of the political position. Technically speaking, the islands only have a three-mile limit as Britain has never declared a 200-mile economic zone around the islands. In any case, this would not have been recognized by the Argentine Government as it claims sovereignty of all the waters anyhow.

The British Government was unaware of the prospective risk contract offer but when it was drawn to its attention by *The Times* it took the unusual step of publishing an advertisement in the press warning international oil companies not to go ahead.

Argentina is currently more than 95 per cent self-sufficient in oil and gas but is anxious to become a net exporter in order to boost its ailing economy which is why it has stepped up the offshore drilling programme on the basis of risk contracts.

Oil industry sources claim that the overall prospects are encouraging, but until a proper exploration programme over the whole area has been carried out it is impossible to evaluate the true position. Atlantic Richfield said last night that they had shown an interest in the disputed Magallones Este block, which adjoins others where test drilling has been carried out, because the seismic data "looked encouraging."

The Foreign Office has in the past been consulted on numerous occasions about applications for drilling off the Falklands but has refused to grasp the problem in the hope that companies would lose and go away.

One oil expert has said that the indications are that oil and gas deposits are being found in the Springhill formation, which is the geological name for one of the sedimentary layers. This layer lies between the Argentine mainland and the islands and dips to the east.

It is thought that the main reservoir, if it exists, will be closer to the islands than the mainland. But this cannot be proved until test drilling takes place. This has not happened because the British Government has not been able to reach agreement with Argentina.

Over the last 18 months, Argentine Foreign Ministry officials have privately expressed extreme frustration at Britain's attitude over this matter as they would have liked to see some kind of joint proposal for a production sharing agreement.

It now seems possible that such negotiations for a joint production agreement bringing in the United States as guarantor, in return for a share of the revenue, could lead to a possible basis for a transfer of sovereignty lease-back settlement.

View of an eminent authority

International law would favour the British argument

Despite the emotional tide which swept through the House of Commons during last Saturday's emergency debate few references to the international law aspect of the Falkland Islands debacle could be detected. The paucity of order, marked by the Speaker's repeated calls, was equalled only by the rarity of attention to the legal nature of the issues and propoals put before the House.

The Prime Minister informed the House that the unprovoked aggression by the government of Argentina had not a shred of justification or a scrap of legality. This cannot be gainsaid. The conduct of Argentina is a classic violation of Article 2(4) of the United Nations Charter — prohibition of the use of force against the territory of any state — to which Argentina has been a party since October 24, 1945, when that paramount international law instrument came into force.

It might also be pointed out that at no time has Argentina subscribed to "the optional clause" of the statute of the International Court of Justice accepting its compulsory jurisdiction. Judicial settlement would manifestly be the proper method of settling the Falkland Islands dispute.

Argentina claims to be entitled to sovereignty over the Falkland Islands. So does the United Kingdom. Such an international legal dispute "should as a general rule be referred by the parties to the International Court ... in accordance with the provisions of its statute (Article 36 [3]) of the Charter. The optional clause has been subscribed to by 45 states to date.

The conduct of Argentina during the last few days does not spell out to the world much confidence in the UN Charter or the validity of Argentina's claim to the Falkland Islands and Dependencies. No doubt that was a factor which the UN Security Council took into account, as it has before, when it adopted last Saturday's resolution demanding an immediate cessation of hostilities, and the immediate withdrawal of all Argentine forces from the Falklands and called on Argentina and Britain to seek a diplomatic solution of their differences and to respect fully the charter.

Argentina has now violated at least two of the charter's principles: to settle its dispute with Britain by peaceful means, and to refrain from the use or threat of force against the territorial integrity of any state (Article 2(3) and Article 2(4) respectively).

The UK claims, according to Mr Nott, the Defence Secretary, to have despatched its task force as its right of self-defence under Article 51 of the charter, sometimes called the most over-worked provision of the charter. The Prime Minister has thus given this country room to move both within the mandatory terms of the Security Council's resolutions cited and in lawful exercise of the UK's "inherent" right of self-defence under the charter.

Mrs Thatcher stated in the parliamentary debate that she could not foresee what orders the task force would receive as it proceeded. That, she said, would depend on the situation. Meanwhile, as she reiterated at question time yesterday, she hoped that continuing diplomatic efforts, helped by Britain's many friends, would be successful.

The "inherent" right is in this instance and individual self-defence. The Falkland Islands stand outside the geographical limits of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization area under the North Atlantic Treaty, 1949. The right of self-defence being "inherent", is exemplified, but not exhausted by its formulation in the charter.

The famous formula of the US Secretary of State Daniel Webster in 1837 stated: "There must be a necessity of self-defence, instant, overwhelming, leaving no choice of means and no moment for deliberation ... it must involve nothing unreasonable or excessive since the act justified by the necessity of self-defence must be limited by that necessity and kept clearly within it." This formula received endorsement in a judgment of the International Military Tribunal at Nuremburg in 1946, and was unanimously reaffirmed by the UN General Assembly the same year (Resolution 95 (1)).

The length of sailing time for the task force to reach the Falkland Islands is thus not without its uses, legally. The degree of armed force which may lawfully be exercised by that task force will depend on the quantity and quality of armed resistance to it by the Argentine forces, in seeking to prevent the UK forces liberating the islands.

If, however, diplomatic activities have proved successful during the voyage of the task force or at its close, the amount of armed force that may be justified in law will have reached vanishing point.

Dr David Owen, the former Foreign Secretary, proposed during the debate, that Britain declare its right to a 200-mile limit around the Falklands. It would, he said, "be compatible with international law to declare within that limit that no Argentine vessel should appear, and, if it did, the British Navy would take action."

This is a curious proposal. In time of armed conflict at sea, such a limit would restrict action by the Royal Navy to an extent not required by international law. In time of normality a 200 mile limit would be difficult to justify because such a claim for a territorial sea is not yet accepted in international law.

More curiously, and what was not mentioned by any MP during the debate, but which may be immediately practical, is the humanitarian treatment that must be accorded to any UK service man or merchant seaman captured by the Argentine forces, as required by the Geneva (Prisoner of War) Convention, 1949, and the like treatment which must be accorded to our civilian nationals now in the occupied Falkland Islands, under the Geneva (Civilians) Convention, 1949.

Argentina is a party to both conventions as is this country. For this purpose it would appear that both Argentina and this country will be bound, as a matter of international law, to accept the offer of the humanitarian services of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Saturday's debate in the Commons, generally, was not illuminating, so far as international law was concerned. This is odd because the validity of all our present actions directed against Argentina, whether naval, military or economic, are based on that international law. If not so based, they have no validity whatsoever. International law may merit more attention than it has so far received in this incident. Perhaps today's debate will be focussed more precisely.

G I A D Draper

(Professor Emeritus in Law, Sussex University)

Expatriate Britons are getting out fast

From Christopher Thomas Buenos Aires, April 6

The expatriate British community in Buenos Aires is afraid. The signs of tension are there, the easy atmosphere has gone, and if the Falklands are stormed their days in Argentina will be miserable if not over.

Each day charter aircraft are hired in Montevideo, half an hour's flight away in Uruguay, to take Britons home. They are all packed with businessmen and their families heeding the advice from the British Government to get out fast.

They cannot transfer money through the banks any more and their cars are "frozen", so they cannot drive them out of the country.

But they choose to flee because the Argentine people, who are notoriously volatile, are becoming increasingly restive with every advance of the British task force and anything could happen at any time.

A few days ago firms employing British people in Argentina were advised by the embassy in Buenos Aires, which is now officially the property of the Swiss, to get all non-vital personnel out in 48 hours. The exodus has been carried out efficiently, swiftly and almost unnoticed.

But what of the thousands who remain? What if the anti-British sentiments now sweeping the country get out of hand?

The mood in the English Club in central Buenos Aires is gloomy, depressing and fearful. A few days ago a policeman stationed himself outside the front door, silently watching the comings and goings of those who regularly take lunch or a sundowner in the colonial surroundings of their distinctly British enclave.

There are probably 17,000 people of British origin who hold British passports in Argentina and who are therefore highly vulnerable to expulsion. But even those with Argentine passports — some of them fifth generation Argentines — feel uneasy.

The British are found everywhere in the country. The Welsh community in Patagonia speaks Welsh, Spanish and no English. The English and Scots communities are completely bilingual, mostly Argentine born.

They are confused by their division of loyalties and bitter over what they see as the mishandling of the Falklands affair.

The general view is that Britian failed to read the warning signs, which were patently obvious three months ago, and that the counter-invasion is a bad idea. Argentines generally respect the British. The railways, telephones, meat plants and much else were developed by Britons, and La Torre de Los Inglesias (The English Tower) built and donated by the British community in 1910, is one of the most delightful pieces of architecture in the city.

Buenos Aires happily absorbs a great deal of British culture. There is the hospital Britanico, the British orphanage, the Sunset House for the elderly and St John's Anglican Cathedral and a host of British churches and schools. They could all be threatened.

The British Community Council administers many charities collecting huge sums for those who cannot pay for schooling or medical care or who cannot survive the absurd inflation rate. The target this year is $300,000 (about to be raised by raffles, fetes, fuctions and various other means.

The St Andrews Society, which survived the defunct English Society and Welsh Society, organizes a pipe band with full Scottish regalia. The Latins ar aghast by it but they have accepted it gladly, though there is a good deal of sniggering at the kilts and the rst of the paraphernalia.

"Our British community has fragmented a great deal since the war" lamented one senoir member of the English Club who, like everybody else, said it could be dangerous to name him. "But we continue to survive, we havkept our Briysh identity but equally we feel we are Argentinian."

He drank his British gin. "But it they try to take back the Malvinas we will not be safe. Three policemen are already guarding the British Caledonian office and we have that chap outside guarding us. It's all a great deal bloody shame."

He left his deep leather armchair, passed by the huge photograph of central London, and walked out into the stifling autumn air. He said a friendly, almost hopeful good night to the policeman. There was no reply.



Major Gareth Noot, back from the Falklands, is reunited with his wife Anne and daughters Katie, aged 11, Deborah, 7, and Nicola, 9.

Argentine import licences revoked

By Rupert Morris

All imports from Argentina into Britain worth more than £100m a year were banned from midnight last night, the Prime Minister announced in the House of Commons yesterday.

All import licences were immediately revoked, but consideration would be given to application s from British importers for licences to import goods which could be shown to have been in transit before the ban took effect, Mr Peter Rees, the Trade Minister, said.

Argentine exports to the United Kingdom in the last four months of 1981 were worth £56m, substantially more than the £47m worth of goods exported from the United Kingdom to Argentine.

This balance of trade is thought to be atypical, however, as the Department of Trade statistics for 1980 - the latest complete year's figures - show rhe value of Brtiain's exports to Argentina as £173m, compared with imports from the same country worth £114m.

About half Britain's imports from Argentina consists of meat, which in 1980 was worth £29m. Of this half was corned beef, and half frozen cuts of prime beef, mainly for use by big catering chains and steak houses.

Mr JAck Bailey, president of the National Federation of Meat Traders, which represents High Street butchers, said there would be no effect on shop prices. The Australians had a lot of beef to sell and he expected any shortfall to be made up by them. Importers of frozen beef were, however, concerned that other producers might put up their prices to cope with increased demand.

Importers and retailers of corned beef were more worried that public reaction against Argentine corned beef would harm the retail trade. Tesco, the supermarket chain, has removed all Argentine corned beef from its shelves.

Confusion over payments freeze

Argentina's move to suspend payments to creditors and British residents announced in Buenos Aires yesterday by Señor Roberto Alemann, the Economy Minister, has led to deepening confusion in financial circles (Peter Wilson-Smith writes).

The move was taken in retaliation for the blocking of Argentine assets by the British Government but it is still unclear to what extent banks in Britain, which have lent Argentina $5,800m (£3,300m), will be affected.

There were indications from one big British bank yesterday that repayments from Argentina had already been frozen, and there is concern that the Argentine action may open the way for one of its bank creditors to call it in default with wide-ranging implications for financial markets.

Correction

The officer appointed by Argentina to be "Governor" of the Falkland Islands is General Mario Benjamin Menéndez and not Luciano Benjamin Menéndez whose profile was published yesterday.

EEC asked to unite on trade sanctions

From Ian Murray, Brussels, April 6

Britain today puts its case for a united EEC front of trade sanctions against Argentina at a meeting of permanent representatives to the Community. The member states were asked to take action quickly in order to shew their common disapproval of the invasion of the Falkland Islands.

Britain was not expecting the other member states to take as severe an approach as it had done itself, and there was no suggestion that other countries should be asked to severe diplomatic relations with the Argentine junta. Nevertheless, Britain was hoping for trade sanctions covering steel, footwear, agricultural products and textiles to be introduced quickly.

In preparation for such measures the European Commission was working on a draft proposal for sanctions based on article 224 of the Treaty of Rome. This says that member states should consult and take steps together to prevent the European Community being affected by any measures brought in by an individual country in certain defined circumstances.

These include: "Serious international tension constituting a threat of war, or in order to carry out obligations it has accepted for the purpose of maintaining peace and international security."

The Commission itself discussed the Falkland crisis at its meeting this morning and issued a statement afterwards condemning "the armed intervention of Argentina against a British territory linked to the Community, an intervention committeed in violation of international law and the rights of the inhabitants of the Falkland Islands."

The statement went on: "The Commission expresses its solidarity with the United Kingdom. It makes an urgent appeal to the Argentine Government to implement the resolution of the (United Nations) Security Council, calling on it to withdraw its troops from the islands and to continue seeking a diplomatic solution.

"It expresses the hope that the Organization of the American States will join its efforts to those of the United Nations in order to ensure, by diplomatic means, that a solution based on law prevails."

The Commission cannot take any action on the issue without the approval of the ministerial council. Sanctions could, however, be agreed between the permanent representatives and passed on for formal approval by whichever council is next held. At the moment, this is sheduled to be that of the agriculture ministers on April 20. Unless a special meeting is called for at short notice this would be the first date on which an EEC response could be properly agreed.

The EEC has a positive trade balance of about £256m with Argentina, but if the categories suggested by Britain or sanctions, the community has a trade deficit.

Mr Heath welcomed by Mr Deng Xiaoping, the Chinese leader.

Chinese backing sought

Peking, April 6 — Mr Edward Heath, the former Conservative Prime Minister said today he asked China to use all its influence on Argentina to abide by the United Nations resolution calling for withdrawal from the Falkland Islands.

Even though China abstained in the vote on the resolution, which was passed by a solid majority, "they understood our position," he told a news conference. "I got the impression that they are thinking more about it since the United Nations resolution has been passed."

He said the Chinese urged him to "understand their position, particularly as a member of the developing world."

Yesterday, the Chinese Foreign Ministry spolesman said: "The Chinese Government expresses concern over the issue and hopes that both sides will exercise restraint, avoid aggravation of the situation and settle the dispute by peaceful means through diplomatic channels."

Mr Heath, who arrived here on Sunday, said he was cutting short his visit to China to return for the parliamentary debate

Pym puts off his Mideast trips

By Denis Taylor

Mr Francis Pym, the new Foreign Secretary, will not be going to Syria and Jordan next week for the visits planned by Lord Carrington, because of the crisis over the Falkland Islands. It was being emphasized in Whitehall last night that the trips to Damascus and Amman have been postponed, not cancelled.

Even before Lord Carrington's resignation, the possibility of the visits taking place had looked extremely remote.

But last night there were no plans to change arrangements for the meeting of British and Spanish foreign ministers at Sintra, Portugal, on April 20 for talks on the future of Gibraltar. This is the date on which the Spaniards are due to poen the gates on their side of the frontier with Gibraltar.

The great importance which Madrid attaches to a whole range of developments involving Britain is appreciated in London. These include prospective Spanish membership to the EEC and Nato, as well as the opening of the Gibraltar border.

Whitehall sources would not be drawn into commenting on the enthusiasm with which the Argentine invasion of the Falklands has been greeted in some circles on the Spanish right, beyond saying that the British Government was aware of these sentiments.

There is, in any case, no obvious parallel between the Spanish and Argentine claims on British territories. Spain has tried to exert pressure over Gibraltar for years, but a military intervention has not been in prospect.

Mr Pym's first day at the Foreign Office included extensive briefings on the Falklands crisis. He had to prepare himself for the formidable task of opening for the Government in the debate on the Falklands in the Commons today.

It was being underlined that his becoming Foreign Secretary does not imply any change of policy, whatever changes of emphasis or style may emerge from the new holder of the office.

The point of departure for British foreign policy remains the United Nations Security Council resolution demanding Argentine withdrawal from the Falklands. The sailing of the naval task force for the South Atlantic was depicted as being intended to strengthen diplomacy, while the overall aim remained to avoid war.

But it was also being emphasized that the withdrawal of the Argentine occupying forces from the islands remained an absolute condition for any settlement.

It has apparently been clear to the United States that if Washington was thinking in terms of any political initiatives, a solution would have to involve the removal of the Argentine troops.

President Reagan has said that America would do all that it could to achieve a peaceful solution to the conflict.

As well as having to cope with the finer points of the crisis, Mr Pym is already finding out that a foreign secretary cannot focus on one subject exclusively at a time. The office involves coping with a constant flow of advice and discussions

Washington tries to head off clash

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, April 6

As the Royal Navy's task force headed towards the open seas, the United States began a series of high level meetings in an attempt to head off an open confrontation between Britain and Argentina over the Falklands.

This morning Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, presided over a meeting of senior officials to consider ways of preventing a clash between its major ally and a leading pro-western member of the Organization of American States (OAS).

This afternoon Mr Haig was due to hold separate meetings with Sir Nicholas Henderson, the British Ambassador, and Señor Estaban Takacs, the Argentine Ambassador. Htese were to be followed in the evening by a discussion between Mr Haig and Señor Nicanor Costa Mendez, the Argentine Foreign Minister who arrived in Washington yesterday to explain his country's occupation of the disputed islands to a special meeting of the OAS.

The Americans say they are not trying to act as mediators between the British and Argentines at this stage but are merely using their good offices to try and resolve a dispute between two of America's allies. President Reagan described America's role yesterday as that of honest broker.

American officials admit they have no firm ideas yet how the dispute may be resolved, or even how the two protagonists can be prevented from opening fire on each other. "We are kicking around a number of ideas but nothing has firmed up yet", said one.

One idea which has found some favour here is a refinement of the "lease-back" proposal which has already been unsuccessfully submitted by Britain to Argentina and to the Islanders.

Under it Britain would cede the islands to Argentina which would then lease them back to Britain, in a similar way that Britain leases Hongkong from China. This proposal would also inlude a division of future oil royalties between Britain and Argentina.

Another idea would be to make the islands into a British-Argentine condominium. However, British officials pointed out that most of these proposals had already been rejected by Argentina and were likely to find even less favour in Buenos Aires now that Argentina had siezed the islands.

Popular feeling in the United States is running heavily in support of Britain at present. The British Embassy says it has been flooded by telephone calls expressing sympathy.

American papers have also been outspoken in favour of Britain and have been critical of American attempts to maintain a middle position between the two contestants. Writing in The Washington Post today Mary McGrory, a well-known columnist, chastizes President Reagan for saying that the United States was "friends of both sides".

For most Americans, she wrote, "The choice between our oldest ally and what one incensed member of Parliament called a Fascist tin-horn junta that has engaged in flagrant aggression, is a cinch".

The New York Times said in an editorial this morning that there was no sense pretending that Washington's relations with the two protagonists was symmetrical. "The Thatcher Government is entitled to an all-out effort to persuade Argentina to back down", the paper commented.

However it has become clear following the Argentine Foreign Minister's address to the OAS yesterday that Latin American opinion is beginning to line up behind Argentina. Two key pro-Western Latin American countries— Venezuela and Brazil — have already voiced their support and most members of the OAS already recognize Argentine sovereignty over the islands.

Having lost last weekend's Security Council debate Argentina is now attempting to rally the whole Latin America to its side. Señor Mendez called for hemispheric support for his country's seizure of the islands and hinted that Argentina might involve the 1947 Rio Defence Treaty to counter what he termed British aggression.

However, it was also clear that Señor Mendez, by continually referring to the existence of "British colonialism" hopes to gain the support of much of the Third World if a shooting war develops.

He sought to give the impression that Argentina had been consistently reasonable and Britain consistently obdurate during the 149 years of the dispute. He dismissed Britain's argument that the wishes of the inhabitants of the islands should be the main consideration in any settlement.

Ascension prepares supplies for fleet

Ascension Island, April 6. — Military activity increased today on Ascension, the strategic island in the South Atlantic when a British fleet auxiliary ship arrived and began taking on stores.

The unexpected arrival of the Fort Austin, 8,160 tons, followed the dispatch of the task force from Britain to try to retake the Falkland Island from Argentina.

Eyewitnesses said military stores were being flown into the island by Royal Air Force C130 transports, but a security clampdown by the island's administration meant no details were available.

Four C130 Hercules were seen on the airstrip, which Mr Bernard Pauncefort, the administrator, said yesterday, would be restricted to authorized traffic.

Mr Pauncefort has said security prevented him from saying anything about the situation, but he is to make a statement to the islanders on Thursday through their local news sheet.

Speculation that the fleet might use Ascension as a staging post on its 8,000-mile voyage persists, despite the "informed sources" who say that the ships will be routed past the island to cut down the sailing time. — Reuter.

World reaction

UK had too much faith — France

M Claude Cheyssson, the French Foreign Minister, yesterday described the Argentine invasion of the Falkland Islands as an "attack pure and simple," which had not been preceded by any provocation (Charles Hargrove writes from Paris). The minister, who was being interviewed on the radio, added that the security of Argentina has not been threatened by Britain. He also expressed personal regret over the resignation of Lord Carrington as Foreign Secretary.

The British Government, he added, had perhaps put excessive faith in negotiations with the Argentine Government over the future of the islands. This could explain the absence of preparation against the possible military landing on them.

The affair was a very serious one, this explained the very clear stand taken by the United Nations Security Council on the matter. M. Cheysson declared on Monday night in Nice, where he had gone to meet President Amadou Ahidjo of Cameroon, on a private visit to the country.

"In the Malouines (Falklands)" he said in today's interview, "Britain has been attacked from the outside, without there being the least symptom of a local revolt," which, he implied, would have justified the operation as an anti-colonialist one. M Cheysson explained the violence of the reaction of British public opinion by the fact that "Britain is a gret country with a glorious history gehin it. Its people acted like a nation which feels humiliated".

About Lord Carrington's resignation, Mr Cheysson said: "He is a man of great qualities, astute, experienced, with a great sense of humour. We shall miss him a lot. I would add that I am not surprised that, faced with all the criticism levelled at him in the House of Commons, he decided to take upon himself the whole responsibility for this affair, for he is a man of honour."

The minister had established close personal relations with his British opposite number. They stood Franco-British relations in good stead in the rough weather which they periodically have to face, and prevented natural conflicts of interest ove Community policy from degenerating into fundamental misunderstandings.

He added: "The decision of the Security Council condemning Argentina is a very rare decision, and many countries in the world are going to apply themselves to persuading it to agree to a diplomatic solution. It is hard for me to imagine that a country like Argentina could ignore a Security Council decision."

Le Monde, which is not usually inclined to make any concessions to what it describes as Britain's lack of European conviction, paid a fulsome tribute to the former Foreign Secretary yesterday.

"He is probably not a convinced European (but are there any in Britain?)", the paper says, "and he took good care not to reveal any differences with the Prime Minister, whose style was nevertheless the opposite of his.

"But his realism, his moderation, his professionalism, earned him the respect and esteem of his partners in the Community. They knew that if there existed a possibility of agreement, Lord Carrington would not let it pass by. His departure wil not facilitate agreement among the Europeans."

The French Government is studying the British demand for the imposition of sanctions against Argentina. The demand will be studied by the experts of the Ten in Brussels. The Foreign Ministry refused to state what attitude France would adopt on the matter.



M Claude Cheysson: Regrets at Lord Carrington's departure

Canberra: Cabinet recalls ambassador

The Australian federal cabinet decided to recall its ambassador from Argentina for "urgent talks" Mr Malcom Dan will return to Australia immediately. Mr Anthony Street, foreign minister, said that the decision had been made to express Australia's deep concern and condemnation of the Falklands invasion. (Our Melbourne correspondent writes).

The Government will consider implementing trade restrictions against Argentina but Mr Malcolm Fraser, the Prime Minister, ruled out sending Australian troops to the area.

He said that he did not see Australia going to war in the Falkland Islands but he had written to Mrs Thatcher and indicated that Australia strongly supported Britain.

Mr Michael Mackellar the acting Foreign Minister, told Señor Orlando Cappellini the Argentine Ambassador of the governments concern. The meeting was brief and the ambassador was given copies of statements made by the Prime Minister and Mr Mackellar during the weekend. Mr Cappellini had been prepared to be ordered to leave.

Earlier on Monday Sir John Mason the British High Commissioner saw Mr Mackellar at Sir John's request and the Australian Ambassador in Buenos Aires called on the Argentine Deputy Foreign Minister.

The New Zealand Government had ordered the Argentine Ambassador to leave New Zealand and told the Argentine national airline to discontinue its flights between Buenos Aires and Auckland.

Pretoria: No base sought

Britain has made no approach to South Africa about using the Simonstown naval base, according to a spokesman of the South African Department of Foreign Affairs (our correspondent writes from Cape Town).

The Falklands are about 3,600 nautical miles from Simonstown. A request by Britain for use of its facilities could place South Africa in a dilemma. It has been cultivating good relations with South American countries recently, most of whom appear to be backing Argentina.

The republic maintains diplomatic relations with Argentina, without charge d'affaires, Señor Alfredo Oliva Day, put his country's view of the dispute at a press conference in Cape Town yesterday.

Meanwhile the South African government is being urged by the Cape Times to make the Simonstown naval base available to the Royal Navy in the crisis.

Warsaw: No support

The hard-lone Polish Army daily Zolnierz Wolnosci turned its attention briefly from problems at home to offer support to Argentina's generals (Our Warsaw Correspondent writes).

A commentary argued that the status quo on the Falklands about which the British government speaks was a remnant of the colonial empire and charged that the "smell of petrodollars in part prevented Britain from recognizing Argentina's historic claim to the islands through 17 years of fruitless negotiations."

The commentary said that the Argentine Government's dramatic decision to invade the islands and the British decision to dispatch the fleet could have consequences which went beyond the two parties concerned, as indicated by Saturday's stormy debate in the Security Council.

Poland abstained in the vote on the British resolution calling for a withdrawal of Argentine forces.

Hague: No weapons

The Dutch Government aligned itself with Britain and banned weapons shipments to Argentina.

A Dutch firm has a contract to provide electronic guidance systems for Argentine warships under construction in West German shipyards. They will not be delivered.

□ Bonn.— If Argentina does not withdraw, the West German Government may decide to halt delivery of frigates and corvetted ordered by Argentina under a major construction programme, but cancellation would threaten thousands of jobs in West German shipyards.

□ Tokyo. — Britain has called on Japan publicly to condemn Argentina's invasion of the Falkland Islands, but Japanese officials said privately that it would be difficult for Japan to join in economic sanctions against Argentina because it was friendly with both countries.

PARLIAMENT April 6 1982

PM knew about invasion fleet last Wednesday

FALKLANDS

The precise time at which the Prime Minier had information that an Argentinian invasion fleet was on its way to the Falkland Islands was on Wednesday evening when the Government took action, Mrs Thatcher explained to the Commons.

She was persistently questioned by Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, about press reports, including that on the front page of *The Times* today (Tuesday), that information about the attack was known in London 10 days before. Mrs Thatcher said there was a certain amount of confusion in the reports in which there was a phrase that they knew about the ships but "they did not know their intent".

Mrs Thatcher, in the at times noisy exchanges, rejected a Labour call for her resignation. This was the time for resolution, not resignation, she said. Our mission (she added) is to restore British sovereignty to the islands and to the people.

She announced that the Government had decided to impose an embargo on the imports of all goods from the Argentine from midnight Tuesday.

Mr John Browne (Winchester, C) in the exchanges, said: On her own actions over the Falklands issue she has the overwhelming support of this House and of the nation. (Conservative cheers and some Labour laughter).

Can she confirm whether or not our *mission is to destroy the* Argentine invasion fleet? If she cannot, will she say if she believes it possible or desirable, in the light of the long-term security interests of the Falkland Islands and to protect the exposed southern Nato flank, that a Nato base could be established in the Falklands?

Mrs Thatcher: Our mission is to restore British sovereignty to the islands and to give the people what they want — the right to live under British rule and owe allegiance to the British Crown. That is our task.

As for a Nato base in the Falklands, I do not think that would be well received. It is very, very far out of the Nato area.

Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the *Opposition (Ebbw Vale, Lab): Has* she been able to study this morning the reports in many newspapers, including *The Daily Telegraph* and *The Times*, about the statement that information about the attack was known in London ten days before?

This is claimed to be on unimpeachable sources. If that was true, it would have been possible for action of interception to be taken. Will she say if that information is correct and, if it was received, what action was taken by the Government?

Mrs Thatcher: As I told the House on Saturday, even if action had been taken — (Labour interruptions). Will the House let me answer the question in my own way, giving the information which I am certain is accurate, as I try to do and try to check these matters?

As I told the House on Saturday, even had we known at the time of March 19 — (Renewed Labour interruptions) — there was the landing at Leith on South Georgia, and that was a long time befor the 11 days Mr Foot referred to, we could not have got ships and the fleet there in time.

On the second part, Mr Foot will find a certain amount of confusion in these reports and I therefore stand by what I told him on Saturday — that the first time we had precise information . . . . (Labour interruptions.) Well, *if he will look he will see there is* a phrase to the effect that they knew there were ships; *they did* not know their intent.

There were further Labour interruptions and Mrs Thatcher continued: I am telling him with the greatest possible accuracy as information came to me. The first information I had was on Wednesday of last week when we took action.

Previously we had been very worried about the situation in South Georgia where *Endurance* had been and it was suggested that she take off the Argentinians by force, and we had understood that there were ships on the way for that, and when we understood that we also took certain dispositions.


Browne: Nato base


Roberts: Help docks

Mr Foot: Will she answer the immediate point? Questions of British intelligence are concerned in these maters and the House has a right to judge if British intelligence was operating properly and, if so, what action was taken.

Will she tell us if the information stated here was received? Whenever she might have been informed, surely she has had the chance to look at such an accusation today and judge and tell the House and the country if such information as this was recieved at the time stated?

Mrs Thatcher: I have tried to help Mr Foot. (Labour interruptions) If he will look at that report, the one on the front of *The Times*, he will see there were ships there. Their intent was not known. (Renewed interruptions) This, I understand, is what The Times says.

We knew there were problems. Of course, we were dealing with them on South Georgia. The precise time at which we had information that it was an invasion fleet and it was on its way was Wednesday evening. We took action then. (Labour interruptions)

I am trying to give accurate information. Previously, because of the South Georgia situation, we had also made certain other dispositions.

Mr Foot: If she cannot give us and the country an accurate answer on this matter now, will she study the matter further and make another statement to the House tomorrow as many of her ministers have had to do before?

Mrs Thatcher: No. I have given the accurate . . . (Labour shouts of "No") . . . information that I myself know and the action which I myself took at the time *when I received it.*

Sir Paul Bryan (Howden, C): Is she not encouraged by the support this country has received at the United Nations and throughout the free world on the stand the Government has taken on the Falkland Islands?

Mrs Thatcher: Yes. There was a forceful resolution at the United Nations Security Council calling on the Argentine to withdraw.

Mr David Steel, Leader of the Liberal Party (Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles, L): Did she hear the interview with Mr Richard Luce (Shoreham, C) before he resigned — (as Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office) — in which he said clearly — and I heard the interview — that the Government had no warning of any attack until about a fortnight ago. That is a great difference from 48 hours or 24 hours. Would she clear this up?

Mrs Thatcher: That is what I have been trying to do, to indicate that there were problems on South Georgia, that if HMS Endurance proceeded to take off the 10 Argentinians who had landed at Leith, South Georgia, and refused to leave although they had not got proper immigration papers.

We were in touch with Buenos Aires and said that they must go or get proper clearance to be on our territory.

We knew there was a threat that if we took them off by force Endurance might well be stopped and there were ships about which could do the stopping.

The precise threat to Port Stanley and the Falkland Islands came to me on Wednesday. I do not believe that there was a precise threat to Port Stanley as long before as he says.

Mr Terence Higgins (Worthing C): *The United Nations resolution was mandatory and the Argentine Government has not complied. Will she consider tabling a further resolution enforcing economic sanctions of the Argentine Government?*

Mrs Thatcher: If we were to table a further resolution it might not have such a successful conclusion as the resolution we have already had.

Mr Allan Roberts (Bootle, Lab): Will she consider the consequences of the Government's mishandling of the crisis for quite a number of my constituents as 50 per cent of the trade with the Argentine goes through Liverpool Docks. That is likely to stop as result of military action or sanctions — which I would support.

If that trade is stopped, will the Prime Minister make sure that Merseyside Docks, which are in crisis already, receive Government assistance to compensate, so that unemployment does not increase as a result to the mishandling of the Falklands Islands crisis by this Government.

Mrs Thatcher: The extent of our exports to the Argentine has been comparatively small in relation to our total exports, so I cannot give the answer Mr Roberts seeks.

We have decided to impose an embargo on the import of all goods from the Argentine from midnight tonight (Tuesday).

☐ Mrs Thatcher was cheered by Conservative MPs when she rose to reply to Prime Minister's questions and when she stated her refusal to resign.

She had been asked by Mr Robert Cryer (Keighley, Lab) about progress of the Government's arrangements for the visit to *the United Kingdom of* President Reagan.

Mrs Thatcher replied that President Reagan was to be the guest of the Queen at Windsor Castle. As announced on March 25, he was to be invited to address both Houses of Parliament in the Royal Gallery. The programme was still under discussion and further details would be announced.

Mr Cryer: Mrs Thatcher's attempt to use the visit of President Reagan to cover up for her failing position is widely regarded as an abuse of this House. (Conservative protests.)

Has she noted that every President Reagan has called for a peaceful resolution of the Falkland Islands crisis, without bloodshed? Since she is responsible in the final analysis for the conduct of her Government, she should be considering an early resignation to allow somebody else to meet President Reagan.

Mrs Thatcher: We shall welcome President Reagan as president of our senior Nato ally and most powerful defender of liberty in the West and liberty throughout the world.

President Reagan, like most of us would wish a peaceful solution in the Falkland Islands. We shall be very happy if anyone is able to secure withdrawal of Argentina from the Falkland Islands and the restoration of British sovereignty and the restoration of the wishes of the people.

If anyone can do that, we shall warmly welcome their help. With regard to resignation, no. Now the time for strength and resolution. (Conservative cheers.)

Mr John Biggs-Davison (Epping Forest, C): I warmly welcome what Mrs Thatcher has said. [illegible] welcome the personal charge she is taking over these affairs.

Welcoming whatever President Reagan can do to bring about restoration of British sovereignty in the Falkland Islands, will [illegible] and should not we all, keep in mind to this difficult matter the prayer of Sir Francis Drake which she and many others heard yesterday in Westminster Abbey.

Mrs Thatcher: I think the prayer — which he must be referring to is: "It is not the beginning, but the continuing of the same unto the end, until it be thoroughly finished". It is a very [illegible] quotation under these circumstances.

☐ **Mr Peter Rees, Minister for Trade,** in a written reply said the ban on all imports from Argentina, said all import licences issued under existing arrangements were revoked with effect from midnight tonight (Tuesday). He would consider applications from United Kingdom importers for licences to import goods which could be shown to have been in transit to the United Kingdom before the ban took effect.

Poland is given seven years to repay West

From Peter Norman, Frankfurt, April 6

The agreement rescheduling Poland's 1981 commercial bank debt was finally signed in the Frankfurt headquarters of the Dresdner Bank today, giving the Warsaw Government a breathing space in its struggle to deal with the country's crippling debt burden.

Poland is being given seven years to pay its 500 western bank creditors the $2,400m (£1,350m) dept that it should have paid back in the last nine months of last year.

The agreement provides that repayment of 95 per cent of the debt will be suspended for four years before being paid back in seven equal six monthly instalments. The remaining 5 per cent amounting to $120m will be paid back in three three-monthly instalments this year beginning on May 15.

Poland will have to pay a high interest rate onthe rescheduled debt of 1.75 per cent above the London interbank offered rate.

The signing ceremony today took place four months behind schedule and more than a year after Poland first told its Western creditors that it would be unable to service its debt to the West totalling $27,000m. The agreement was held up because bankers refused to sign until the Government in Warsaw had scratched together $500m in interest that it should have paid by the beginning of December last year.

Today's ceremony was attended by representatives of 20 of polnd's international bank creditors and Mr Wetold Bien, the Polish Deputy Finance Minister and Mr Marian Minkiewicz, the president of the Polish Handlowy Bank.

The task now facing the Polish delegation is to get negotiations started on the country's debt falling due *this year and in subsequent* years. The two men will be staying in Frankfurt after the ceremony to talk to bankers on the possibility of further rescheduling agreements.

The brief communiqué issued today by the Dresdner Bank said that negotiations between Poland and the Western banks on the 1982 principal-payments shall start as soon as possible. But the talks are likely to be fraught with difficulties as Poland needs new credits from the West if it is to service its debt falling due this year.

Western Governments are so far, because of martial law in Poland, refusing to give the guarantees for new credits, which the bankers say are essential if more money is to be lent to Poland.

The Dresdner Bank which has headed the international task force dealing with the Polish debt has created a special fund of about DM80m (£18.5m) to cover it for financial losses arising from its DM390m lending to Warsaw. Its Luxembourg subsidiary will become international agent for the rescheduled debt and hence be responsible for insuring that payments are made on time.

Chinese dilemma

Planners despair as birthrate creeps up

From David Bonavia, Peking, April 6

China's economic planners and birth control specialists have watched in dismay as the country's rate of population growth has ceased its downwad trend and begun to creep up again over the past two years.

This is particularly serious because the 1980s are expected to see a baby boom caused by the rise in birthrate in the mid-1950s, and the attainment of normal childbearing age by the people born then.

A law on population control is being drafted, but until then officials in the rural areas, where most of the high population growth takes place, have no legal basis on which to enforce birth control.

They can use only administrative measures, such as financial penalties for families with too many children, and educational and social advantage for those who restrict their fertility voluntary.

Nor are all the cadres enthusiastic about birth control. An official in the southern province of Guangdong has been expelled from the Communist Party and dismissed from his factory job because his wife had given birth to her seventh child. The first six were all daughters, and the prejudice in favour of sons is *still strong.*

The desire for sons has been increased by the economic reform in the rural areas over the past two or three years under which peasants have more freedom to farm the land for profit as families or as small groups, which raises the incentive to have more children and especially more sons.

Population control was only adopted as official policy in 1971, having been resisted by some of the older generation of leaders on the grounds that population was a capital asset. Nor is classic Marxism helpful over this: it regards population as a form of production.

There is still a fundamental debate in specialist and ruling circles as to the causes of over population and the means of reducing it. One school holds that it will naturally decline once economic performance and living standards are improved.

The other school, the dominant one, argues that this takes too long, and that excess population prevents rises in living standards. But the technique of decisively lowering population increase stil eludes China.

The population growth rate, which fell from 2.34 per cent in 1971 to 1.17 per cent in 1979, started rising again in 1980 and reached 1.2 per cent again last year.

The optimum population for China, judged by economic factors, is assessed at between six and eight hundred million, but a total population of 1,300 million is expected by the end of this century.

Rule covers classroom work only

SOCIAL SECURITY

The Department of Health and Social Security had no intention of sending inspectors to students' homes to check on whether they are doing their homework, **Mr Anthony Newton**, Under-Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, said at question time in the Commons.

Mr Jeffrey Rooker (Birmingham, Perry Barr, Lab) asked for a statement about the re-interpretation of Regulation 7 (2) of the condition of entitlement regulations.

Mr Newton: The Government is reviewing the details of the 21-hour rule in the light of the Chief Supplementary Benefit Officer's recent guidance on the interpretation of this regulation.

Our aim is to secure that the 21 hours cover classroom instruction only, subject to the introduction of additional safeguards to ensure that people who have withdrawn wholly from employment to pursue their studies are *not entitled to* benefit.

The details are still under consideration, but I hope to be able to make an announcement shortly.

Mr Rooker: Everyone who has been concerned about this will be grateful for the first sentence of the answer. Meanwhile, before this instruction is changed, will he ensure that no more local DHSS offices send inspectors round to students to check whether they are doing their homework?


Newton: Additional safeguards

When we hear about millions of pensioners not getting proper benefits, it is nothing short of a scandal that the time of civil servants and local offices has been used over recent months for this purpose.

Mr Newton: I would like him to let me know of particular cases. We have not set in hand, nor have we any intention of doing so, the kind of investigation he describes.

Mr Robin Maxwell-Hyslop (Tiverton, C): It is widely believed that the regulations count homework as if it were work done at school *for the purposes of this regulation.*

Will he take steps to correct a mis-impression? Even if his department is not responsible for causing it but some radio commentator, it is just as important.

Mr Newton: It is because there is uncertainty about the position arising from the new guidance issued by the Chief Supplementary Benefit Officer that I was concerned to say what I have today.

As to the precise situation on the rule, I am in a little difficulty. There is an appeal on this very point in front of the social security commissioners. We shall have to await the outcome of that before deciding exactly what to do.

Mr Reginald Race (Haringey, Wood Green, Lab): Would he ensure that all claims currently made are re-assessed by the DHSS and that not only is homework excluded from consideration but also travelling time?

Mr Newton: I cannot insist on the re-assessment of claims which fall to be judged under the current guidance as to interpretation of the rules. It is not up to ministers in this department to overrule the advice of independent adjudicating authorities.

What is up to us is to decide whether if the meaning of a regulation turns out to be unsatisfactory from our point of view we change the regulation. That is what we are looking at.

Mr Keith Hampson (Ripon, C): Will he ensure that when drafting new regulations his officers in the various local offices encourage young people who have been genuinely unemployed for a period of time and could benefit from courses, to take these up? There has been widespread disparity in the way this has been operated in the past by local offices.

Mr Newton: I am anxious to do nothing to inhibit young people who are unemployed from using their time usefully.

Moves to get more to claim benefit

The Government was seeking to cooperate with local authorities in well-aimed schemes to improve take-up of pensioners' supplementary and other benefits, **Mr Anthony Newton**, Under Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, said.

There was worry about blanket operations he added, because these might raise hopes not fulfilled and at the same time could produce great overload on local offices involved.

Mr Andrew Bowden (Brighton, Kempton, C) had earlier said: It is tragic that nearly one million pensioners do not receive or claim their full entitlements. That means they must be suffering hardship and deprivation. He should give maximum priority to ensure that number is substantially reduced.

Mr Newton: I hope he will not overstate the case. On my information for about half of *those* who have not taken up their full entitlement, the amount involved is less than £2 a week.

Of course we should do everything possible to reduce this number and increase actual take up. We are issuing to new retirement pensioners a form for *claiming with their new books,* and drawing their attention specifically to the matter.

Quite a lot of the unclaimed benefit arises from confusion caused by the problem of them deciding whether to be on rent rebates or supplementary pension.

We are making sure those who still *retain* entitlement to supplementary benefit are identified and advised.

Within the last few days (he added later) I have announced that further steps designed to help the take-up problem. The housing benefit scheme will bring significant help. We are working to build on that to reduce the problem still further.

PAC access would cause difficulties

If the Public Accounts Committee of the Commons were able to call for all papers in respect of public enterprises in regard to commercial contracts and commercial details, it would make it difficult to make those commercial decisions and extemely difficult to get anyone to run those undertakings, **Mrs Thatcher**, the Prime Minister said when answering questions on British Leyland.

Replying to **Mr Tam Dalyell** (West Lothian, Lab), who had asked if the PAC should have access to Leyland's books, she said that it was the Government's view that the PAC had access to all those papers to which Government department had access and for which ministers were responsible to Parliament.

The Government had not received from British Leyland any proposals for funding in addition to those contained in the company's 1982 corporate plan, to which the Government had announced its approval on December 22, 1981.

Shore says Falklands will affect economy

FINANCE BILL

The scale of Britain's effort on the Falkland Islands required no change in the Government's basic economic strategy, **Mr Leon Brittan**, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, said when he moved the second reading of the *Finance Bill*.

He said the House met under the shadow of other events and their thoughts were naturally with the naval task force in the Atlantic.

We wish them God speed (he said). But these events have in no way altered our resolve to continue with our basic economic strategy, nor is the scale of our efforts in relation to the Falkland Islands, substantial as it is, such as to require any change in that strategy. There is no question of that.

The policies embodied in this Budget and Finance Bill stand unchanged.

No one seriously believed that they would have had the benefits of lower interest rates if the Government had accepted the advice of those who called for massive increases in the level of borrowing.

There had been some disappointing industrial production figures for the winter although output was affected by the weather and industrial disputes. However preliminary indications, such as car production and steel output, showed that there should be some bounce-back in industrial production in February.

The trend in unit wage and salary costs in the three months to January showed a rise of about 3 per cent compared with a year earlier, well below the international average and comparable with the best, which was Germany and Japan. The latest figures for exports showed some fall-off in volume from the encouraging level recorded in the previous four months. The severe weather up to mid-January had a depressing effect. He expected *there to be some improvement in the February trade figures.*

The general picture of the economy was an increasingly encouraging one. The turning *point in activity was reached last* spring since when the gross domestic product had risen by 1 per cent. Industrial and commercial company profits were now recovering strongly. They rose by one-quarter in the second half of 1981.

This should encourage investment and make it easier to finance. Retail price inflation had fallen to 11 per cent, half the rate in the spring of 1980.

The figures provided evidente of a further slowing in the rate of increase in unemployment. Over the last three months the increase in unemployment, averaging about 20,000 a month, had been only one-quarter of that in the same period a year ago.

The outlook for 1982 and 1983 was an encouraging one. They expected output to continue its recovery on a more broadly based front than last year, with industrial investment showing some recovery.

It was possible to see the longer-term effects of the Government's strategy working through. The signs of improvement, and the tax reductions which the Chancellor announced in his Budget, resulted not so much from this Budget but from the Chancellor's previous Budgets.

This Budget and Finance Bill (he said) continues the same steady strategy which is already beginning to ensure that the process of recovery proceeds on a sound and sustainable basis.

He wanted to nail a canard on unemployment. Contrary to what Mr Peter Shore, the Opposition *spokesman* had said, the Government was not planning for unemployment of over three million over the next three or four years.

If it were possible to bring down the level of unemployment on a sustainable basis rapidly and dramatically the Government would have jumped at it. But there was no such route and it was *self-deluding to think that* there was.

This was a Budget for jobs and a Budget *to help* industry. But it was a Budget to provide jobs on a sustainable basis. That was a painfully *slow* process but one which could be achieved given continued sensible moderation on the pay front.

The most important measure to *help industry* in the Budget did not appear in the Finance Bill. That was the decision to; restrain the borrowing requirement to *keep down the burden of interest* on industry. This was what counted when it came to recovery.

Another important measure that did not appear in the Bill was the reduction in the national *insurance surcharge, a widely* disliked tax on jobs proposed and increased by Labour.

Indexation of social security benefits was widespread among industrial countries. In Britain, successive governments had been anxious to avoid indexation of wages. This would have prevented necessary readjustments in real wages and made the economy vulnerable to external price shocks.

Parliament had decided that unless it voted otherwise, the threshholds and bands for income tax should be raised in line with inflation so that it was clear whether a real increase or reduction was being proposed.

This Finance Bill extended this principle to capital transfer and capital gains taxes. It would largely eliminate the injustice of levying taxes on future paper gains.

The Bill proposed an increase of about 14 per cent in the income tax, personal allowances and rate bands. This was 2 per cent more than the increase needed to compensate for inflation in 1981 as required by the statutory indexation provisions.

Brittan: Industry will bounce back

Some 1,200,000 people who would have paid tax next year would not now have to do so. These were people on the lowest incomes and they had been kept out of tax altogether.

The Bill represented a continuation of the long-term strategic objective of the Government to bring down inflation, restore prosperity, and reduce unemployment on a substainable basis. These were objectives no one could quarrel with.

Mr Peter Shore, *chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury* and economic affairs, said that the Falklands Islands events would have some implications for the wholecourse of the economy as it developed during the coming year.

Most obviously, the events would have a clear reflection in *public expenditure totals for* 1982-83.

Mr Arthur Lewis (Newham, North-West, Lab) said that Mr Brittan had not attempted to give any idea of the effect the events would have on the country's economy.

Mr Brittan said that it was obviously impossible at this stage to give any estimate of the [illegible] which was being taken in response to the Falklands crisis.

The cost of that expenditure (he said) will be met in a way which is consistent with the Government's economic strategy. (Laughter)

Mr Shore said there were [illegible] ambiguities in Mr Brittan's response. There would clearly be implications for cash limits as applied to the Defence Department and perhaps to one or two other departments.

There would be costs for the special measures affecting visible and invisible trade. It would all enter the national accounts. He understood that it was too early to give any kind of a measure because events were only now beginning to unfold. The first substantial claim on the 1982-83 contingency reserve had already been made.

If the implication of what he said was that, regardless of the cost involved, which they did not know, Mr Brittan was determined that other Government spending departments should be [illegible] and their expenditure reduced, with the economy having such under-used resources, he would find that was totally unacceptable, at least to the Opposition.

The evidence was now in in support of the charge, he had made during the Budget debate, that the Government's proposals were built on an estimated level of just over three million unemployed. That was the new norm and, he suspected, in the minds of Treasury ministers, the new regulator for the British economy.

Nobody could doubt the price that industry and the nation had had to pay for the all too modest improvement in the [illegible] of inflation. the fall in gross domestic product had been the sharpest in the western world.

The unemployment increase had put Britain into the top position of major industrial nations in this wretched league. All the other countries that had suffered seriously bscause of the second oil shock. And Britain alone had been self sufficient in oil.

It was ironic that the Government had demonstrated that policies aimed at reducing the money supply and the Government's reasoning on inflation, had demonstrably had most effect not in reducing inflation but on reducing output and employment.

Scrutiny of council spending

LOCAL FINANCE

Mr Joel Barnett (Heywood and Royton, Lab.) chairman of the Public Accounts Committee, moved a new clause during the report stage of the Local Government Finance (No 2) Bill on Monday night the purpose of which was to enable the PAC through reports from the Comptroller and Auditor General to report to Parliament on the spending by local authorities of large sums of money which the Commons provided.

The clause provided that the Audit Commission should undertake or promote studies of the impact on economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the provision of local authority services and in the financial management of local authorities of statutory provisions and guidance and instructions issued to them by ministers of the crown.

It stated that the Comptroller and Auditor General should have access to all documents and records held by the commission relating to such studies and that he should report to Parliament the results of his examination.

Mr Barnett said the object was to ensure better value for money in public spending and proper and more effective parliamentary control. The clause sought to ensure that the House had the opportunity of looking at whether Government measures and guidance encouraged efficient local administration.

Local authorities would benefit from the kind of studies that the Comptroller and Auditor General would be enabled to do because the departments' activities vis-a-vis local authorities would be able to be properly checked and reports made to the Commons through the PAC.

It was a limited but important first step to help local authorities and the Government to obtain better value for money and to provide better accountability to the House of Commons but he did not intend to stop there.

Mr Edward du Cann (Taunton, C) said they were dealing here with a relatively limited aspect of a campaign about which Mr Barnett felt as strongly as he did — namely, the opportunity to make certain that the House had, on a continuing basis, adequate information with which to supervise the activities of the executive.

The House should be able to follow public money wherever it was spent, to decide how well it was spent, and to publish its findings so that the public in turn might judge the situation. This was an essentially practical and constitutional principle about which they had been vastly too careless in the past.

Mr Tom King, Minister for Local Government and Environmental Services, said the Government understood the concern on this issue. The clause broke new ground and provided in statute for outside appraisal of the effectiveness of Government's policies and gave the Comptroller and Auditor General a role in relation to local authorities which he had not had previously.

The Government was sympathetic to the right of the Comptroller and Auditor General to examine the commission's studies showing the effect of Government's policies on value for money, but was concerned about the second paragraph of the clause which referred to his having access to all documents and records held by the commission relating to any such studies.

As drafted, this would give the Comptroller and Auditor General access to detailed papers of individual local authorities. This would give rise to considerable concern.

There was the concern of local government on the role of Parliament and the Comptroller and Auditor General. In the Bill, the Secretary of State specifically precludes himself from access to detailed information which precluded him from obtaining from the commission information related to the discharge of its functions in respect of any individual local authority.

I cannot (he said) commend to the House that the amendment as it stands should be accepted. If the mover of the amendment would not press it, I can give this undertaking — that the Government sees merit in the principle of the amendment.

The amendment was withdrawn.

The report stage was concluded and the Bill read the third time by 273 votes to 212 — Government majority, 61.

Benefits Bill in Lords

The Social Security and Housing Benefits Bill, which changes the way in which people who fall sick and whose sickness prevents them from working are paid, and also the way in which help is given to people to meet the cost of housing, was read a second time.

Lord Elton, Under-Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, said that the Bill, which has been through the Commons, *abolished* wasteful duplication of administrative work.

Marriage Bills

The John Francis Dare and Gillian Loder Dare (Marriage Enabling) Bill and the Hugh Small and Norma Small (Marriage Enabling) Bill were read the third time and passed.

Offshore issue in Canada poll

From John Best
Ottawa, April 6

Voters in Newfoundland, Canada's eastern-most province went to the polls today in a provincial general election fought largely on the controversial issue of control over offshore resources.

Mr Brian Peckford, the Progressive Conservative Premier, called the election in the hope of strengthening his hand in his battle with the federal Liberal Government over the offshore question.

His island province is one of Canada's so-called "have nots", with a 15 per cent unemployment rate. Mr Peckford says that can be redressed if Newfoundland has a free hand to exploit the underwater treasures, principally oil, which lie off its coasts.

Throughout the three-week campaign; he repeatedly told Newfoundlanders that unless they speak out now, the federal Government will attempt to seize control of the maritime oil wealth through judgments of the Supreme Court of Canada.

The Liberals — the official opposition party in the last legislature — promised to reach a compromise agreement with the federal Government on the offshore dispute within 90 days after taking office, should they win. They also pledged to submit the compromise to a referendum for approval.

Generally, the Liberals tried in the campaign to shift the focus of the election away from the offshore question onto more general economic issues.

NAPLES APPEAL ON CRIME

From Peter Nichols
Rome, April 6

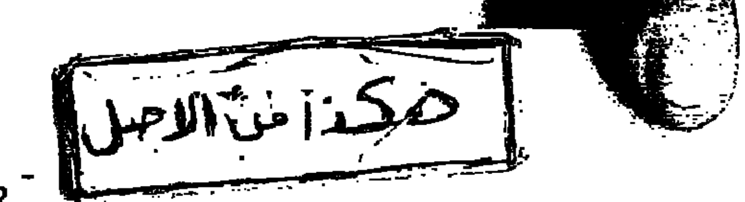
The shocking murder rate in Naples which has reached 89 since the start of the year, and obstacles facing the city's reconstruction were the principal issues discussed at a meeting here today between Signor Giovanni Spadolini, the Prime Minister, and Signor Maurizio Valenzi, the communist mayor of Naples.

Signor Valenzi came to Rome with an appeal for more help from the Government. he is known to feel that Naples is increasingly threatened by violence and cannot face the onslaught alone. Most of the murders are ascribed to feuds between rival groups within the Camorra.

Signor Valenzi has called for a large and determined intervention on the part of the government. His appeal comes when the Prime Minister is still facing the storm aroused by allegations that members of the secret service and others treated with the supposed head of the Camorra in prison, Signor Raffaele Cutole, on the subject of a kidnapped Christian Democrat politician.

The mayor's difficulties are less political but more widespread. He has already asked the Government for special protection for areas where new housing estates are to be built.

Yesterday a group of seven parish priests working in the depressed San Giovanni area of Naples issued their own appeal to the Prefect, the Chief of Police and the Archbishop to take in hand as a matter of urgency the rise of violent crime.



Haig rejects freeze on nuclear arms

Washington, April 6.—Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State said today that a proposed freeze on new nuclear weapons would put Western civilization at risk and increase the likelihood of global devastation.

In the most comprehensive statement so far of the Reagan Administration's nuclear arms policy, Mr Haig said the non-communist world must reject a freeze and avoid the extremes of nuclear catastrephe and nuclear blackmail.

"By maintaining the military balance and sustaining deterrence, we protect the essential values of Western civilization ... and preserve the peace", he said.

"In failing to maintain deterrence, we would risk our freedoms, while actually increasing the likelihood of also suffering nuclear devastation.

"In the nuclear age, the only choice consistent with survival and civilization is deterrence".

Mr Haig's remarks, in a speech at the Georgetown University Centre for Strategic and International Studies, was the Administration's latest effort to counter growing calls for a halt to the arms race.

Mr Richard Perle Assistant Defence Secretary said last week that a freeze at existing levels, as proposed by 178 members of Congress, would lock in Soviet superiority and reduce prospects for arms reductions.

The Administration has also been trying to regain the initiative in world public opinion that American officials concede has been captured by President Brezhnev in recent weeks.

President Reagan called for dramatic reductions in nuclear arms in a press conference last week, and at another session with reporters yesterday he invited the Soviet leader to meet him in New York this summer to discuss arms control.

But Mr Reagan's comments, particularly his claim that Moscow has gained clear nuclear superiority, sparked new criticism from arms control advocates.

Mr Haig today rejected calls for a freeze, for renouncing the first use of nuclear weapons by the West and for submitting to Soviet demands rather than risking nuclear war, a position popularly known as "better red than dead".

A western pledge against using nuclear weapons first would be tantamount to making Europe safe for conventional aggression.

"If the West were to allow Moscow the freedom to choose the level of conflict which most suited it, and to leave entirely to Soviet discretion the nature and timing of any escalation, we would be forced to maintain conventional forces at least at the level of those of the Soviet Union and its allies", he said.

He repeated administration arguments that freezing American and Soviet nuclear arsenals at existing levels would perpetuate an unstable and unequal military balance, reward a decade of unilateral Soviet buildup and remove all Soviet incentive to engage in meaningful arms control designed to cut armaments and reduce the risk of war.

Western deterrence depended upon its ability even after suffering a huge nuclear blow to prevent an aggressor from securing military advantage.

A pledge not to use nuclear weapons first would also require military conscription, the tripling of American armed forces and putting the economy on a wartime footing to counterbalance the Soviet conventional advantages and geopolitical position in Europe, he said.

Embrace of leaders: Señor Javier Perez de Cuellar, the United Nations Secretary-General, during a private audience with the Pope yesterday.

Move to close PLO office in Paris

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, April 6

The assasination of a member of the Israeli embassy in Paris on Saturday, coming after a recrudescence of terrorist attacks against Jewish organizations in the past few months, has brought increasing pressure on the French Government to close down the liaison and information office of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

This was opened in October, 1975, and its staff does not enjoy any special or diplomatic status; but its head, being on the Arab diplomatic list, does have diplomatic privileges and is received occasionally at the Foreign Ministry.

The Government seems determined to resist this pressure. M. Claude Cheysson, the Foreign Minister emphasized that the PLO must be presumed innocent so long as thers was no proof to the contrary.

"Reasonably, I cannot see what would have been its interest in the assassination," He said. He added that Mr Meir Rosenne, the Israeli Ambassador, who called on him today had not mentioned the closing down of the PLO representation. But a few hours later the Israeli Embassy denied this. The ambassador had submitted no written demand to this effect, but had done so verbally.

Several thousand people demonstrated last night outside the PLO office in the district of Passy, in response to a call of the League Against Racism, and of leading Jewish organizations. These were no incidents, although the atmosphere was tense.

Doubts emerge on Gibraltar border

From Harry Debelius Madrid, April 6

Reassuring words from the ruling centre party's foreign policy spokesman sen Javier Ruperez failed to dispel doubts in Madrid today on whether the border would reopen as scheduled in two weeks,

Madrid newspapers said that a toughening of the British position on the decolonization of Gibraltar could be expected after the Argentine invasion of the Falkland Islands. They also pointed out that Mr Francis Pym, the new Foreign Secretary, would have little time to dedicate to the Gibraltar question until the Falklands issue was resolved one way or another.

Señor Rupérez took an optimistic view in an interview broadcast by the state-run Radio Nacional today saying: "As far as the Spanish Government is concerned, there is a will to go ahead with those negotiations, which imply the lifting of Spanish restrictions on Gibraltar on the one hand, and ont he other hand, talks about all the Gibraltar-related problems, including the question of sovereignity."

"I think it is in the interest of the British Government itself to maintain the rhythm of the negotiations, the calendar and the time spans which were worked out some time ago with Spain about Gibraltar."

The independent newspaper *El Pais* and the monarchist *ABC* both speculated that the Falklands developments night lead to a postponement of the restoration of land communications between Gibraltar and the rest of the Iberian Peninsula on April 20.

Señor Carlos Mendo, the former London Correspondent of *El Pais*, remarked that recent progress on the Gibraltar issue was the result of personal contacts between Señor Jose Pedro Perez, Llorca, The Spanish Foreign Minister and Lord Carrington, the former Foreign Secretary.

Sènor Mendo also said that the "hypersensitivity of British public opinion at this moment, bordering on hysteria in some communications media" could be expected to inhibit Whitehall in talks aimed at "the recovery by Spain of sovereignty over the Rock."

In a front-page commentary, accompanying a photograph of Royal Navy ships leaving Portsmouth, *ABC* said that even if the British Government decides to go ahead with the scheduled talks in Lisbon on Gibraltar, "it will be up to the Spanish Government to decide whether there is a chance that the encounters might be fruitful."

Leading article in *El Pais* raised the question whether it was really in Spain's interests to go ahead with the plan. "Would it not be more advidable," the newspaper said "temporarily to suspend the operation until things settle down.

World on brink of war, says Gandhi

Delhi, April 6. — Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, said today that the global situation was out of control and that the world was "on the brink" of war.

"No country however powerful feels secure today," she told a political convention in Jannu, Kashmir. She blamed the international arms race.

Mrs Gandhi said that the Prime Minister of an "important country" had told her that while nobody wanted war, it was possible that everyone would get involved if one broke out. She was apparently referring to Mrs Margaret Thatcher, whom she met last month in London.

In another speech Mrs Gandhi told Army troops that India needed to be so strong that no one would dare attack it, and that "even if this was done, we should be in a position to repel such an attack." — AP.

□ Mr Charan Singh, aged 80, the former Indian Prime Minister, who now heads the opposition Lok Dal Party, today announced his decision to retire from "active political life". He told the Press Trust of India: "I have been thinking of retiring from active political life for the last two years or so, but my friends would not release me. I have, however, now taken a decision to this effect

Islamic challenge to Christians

Inquisition ghosts haunt Andalusia

From Our Correspondent, Seville, April 6

Nearly half a millenium after the Catholic monarchs ousted the last of the moorish kings, Boabdil, from his elegant fortress-palace of the Alhambra, a young spaniard is to go on trial in a case which summons up memories of the Inquisition and which has drawn Christian and Muslim scribes into bitter combat in the land Boabdil knew as Al Andalus.

In the early morning hours of April 4, 1980, as robed and hooded penitents filed by to dirge-like music during a Holy Week procession in the Andalusian city of Selville, their shadows projected like ghosts from the past in the light of the candles they bore, two young men tossed leaflets into the air.

Curious spectators picked them up and read: "These costumes are the costumes of the Inquisition. You are celebrating mass murder and honouring masked killers. Islamic Andalusia was a free Andalusia — later came the assassins in peaked caps. This procession commemorates the Inquisition and its morbid symbols of terrorism and wholesale slaughter".

Two policemen hustled the youths off to the nearest police station. There Mr Tigur Nur — or Benny Lee Jackson, according to his American passport, was interrogated and held for 15days. Bail, reportedly amounting to 58,000 pesetas (£270) was paid and he left. He has never been heard from since.

The other young man, Señor al-Nur Coca Dominguez, was interrogated for two days, allegedly about his religion, then released on 100,000 pesetas (£541) bail.

Señor Coca Dominguez, a native Spaniard, a schoolteacher and a convert to the teachings of Muhammed is expected to be brought to trial soon in Seville on a charge of "disrespectful and outrageous behavior towards religion." He faces a sentence of up to one year and one day if convicted, in addition to a six-year ban on holding any public or private teaching position.

His lawyer maintains he merely expressed a fact "which has been announced in a multitude of historical essays published in Spain" and he is being prosecuted in violation of constitutional guarantees of freedom of religion.

Señor Coca Dominguez's case is the focal point of a broader and highly emotional controversy in Andalusia about the increasing presence and growing influence of Muslims. Apart from an estimated 100,000 foreign Muslims; there are hundreds, perhaps thousands, of native Spanish converts.

Political organizations, such as the Andalusian Socialist Party, and even foreign powers, particularly Iran, are suspected and sometimes accused in print of trying to use the resurgence of Islam in the south for their own purposes.

The Muslim groups seem to be disunited among themselves. At present, the best known one is the Sufi community in Córdoba, the city which was the cultural centre of Europe when it was under Moorish domination, and which is led by Emir Mansur Abdes Salam. This is the community to which Señor Coca Dominguez belongs.

Some Spanish journalists and essayists, not quite knowing what to do about the phenomenon, conjuring up visions of another takeover of Spain by the Prophet's followers.

A prominet historian, Señor Claudio Sánchez Albornoz, wrote a series of articles, published in a number of Spanish newspapers in which, as he put it, he "broke a lance" in favour of the cause of Christian Spain, denouncing the cruelty of the medieval caliphs and asking Spanish women how they would like "to once again be objects of pleasure in the harems" or be sold in slave markets.

Britain opposes EEC workers' rights plan

From Ian Murray, Brussels, April 6

Britain stood out alone today against proposals for a Community-wide scheme intended to give workers in multinational and large companies the right to consultation and employment protection.

An informal meeting of employment ministers in Brussels took a preliminary look at the idea. While most countries wanted to await Parliament's decision on the matter, Mr Norman Tebbit, the British Minister, made it clear that legally binding measures on the subject were contrary to the approach of his Government.

Mr Tebbit said that the Government favoured good relations between management and employees, and considered that voluntary guidelines such as those laid down by the International Labour Organisation and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development were sufficient, Britain did not like legal compulsion in this area.

The British Government had no objection to individual countries' introducing national legislation of this kind, but he believed it was not something to be imposed on all member states.

France, which is in the process of drawing up legislation of this kind, said that experience proved that voluntary standards were not observed unless they were supported by law.

Pym faces hard bargaining on EEC budget

From Ian Murray, Brussels, April 6

Mr Francis Pym, the new Foreign Secretary, may have little time at the moment for anything but the Falkland Islands crisis, but he will nevertheless have to start reading himself in very quickly to one of the most complicated dossiers on any minister's desk.

It is the vexed question of Britain's contribution to the EEC budget, which was due to have been discussed by a special meeting of EEC foreign ministers in Luxembourg last Saturday that had to be cancelled because Lord Carrington could not be present.

Lord Carrington hated the hard grind of EEC negotions, particularly because he so often found himself in the unenviable role of protecting British interests against the assaults of most and sometimes all the other nations. Nevertheless, he is a profoundly committed European and regarded the hard work of the meetings as something of a cross he had to bear on behalf of the European ideal.

His convictions not only won him the respect of his opposite numbers from the other countries, but meant he was prepared to work harder for a compromise than might a more nationalistic minister. Since coming to office, he had amassed a considerable experience and knowledge of the subject which was a vital element in Britain's negotiating position.

Mr Pym will have to work hard to assimilate the intricacies of the dossier before the next meeting of the foreign ministers, now scheduled for April 27 in Luxembourg. He will have to take up the negotiations at a particularly delicate moment, with Britain for once precariosly in a camp with nine other countries seeking to persuade France to use a complicated compromise formula as a basis for discussion.

Any hardening of Britain's position at this meeting could easily swing the other countries impatiently behing the French position and it will take great skill on Mr Pym's part to prevent this happening.

Before the April 27 meeting there is to be a further three-day meeting of the agriculture ministers starting on April 20. Britain has all along maintained that there as to be a direct link between any agreed farm price review and the final budget package.

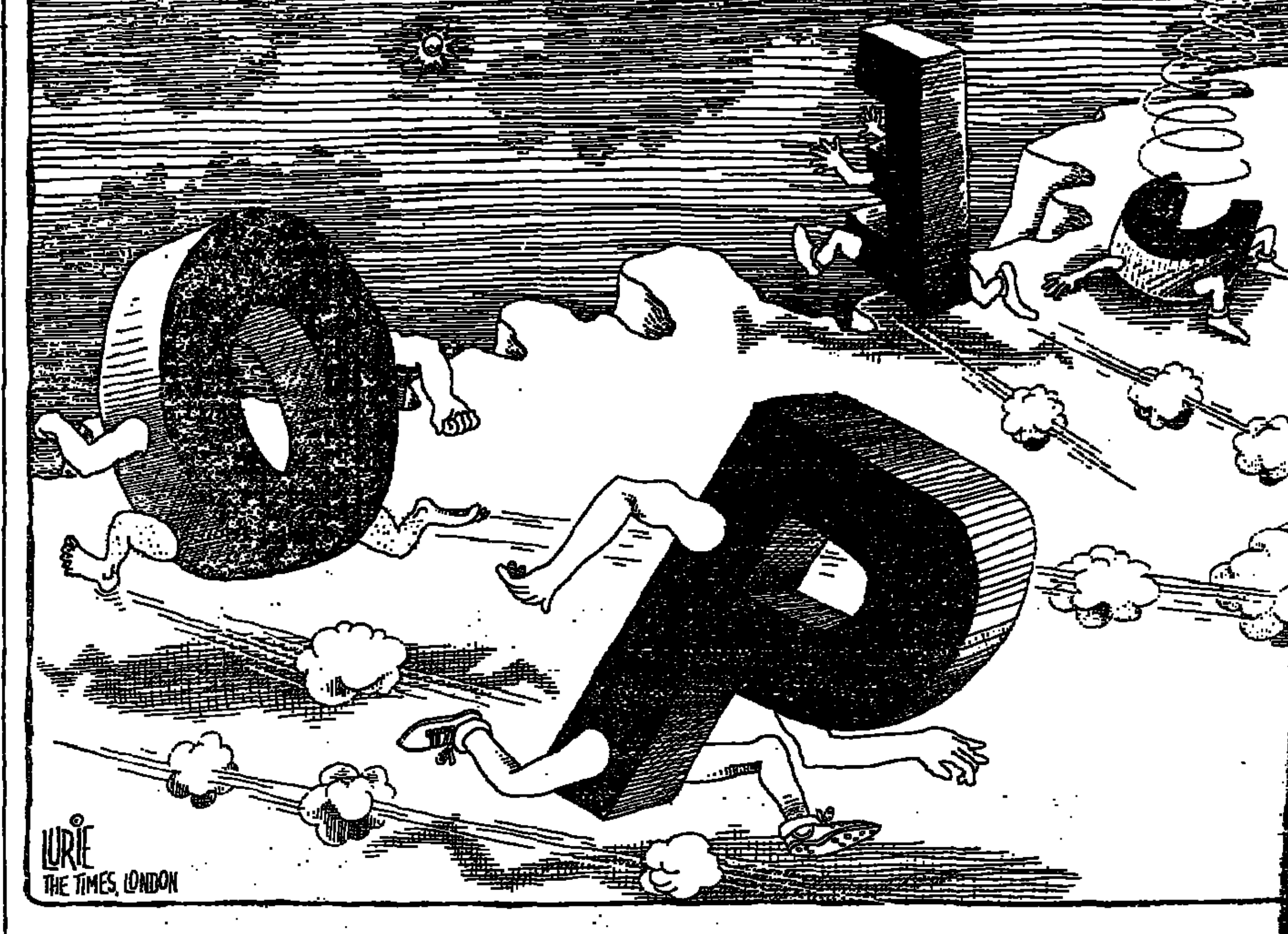
This is because so much of the budget is spent on agriculture that any increases in prices must mean that Britain would have to bear more of the cost of such an increase than any other country.

Negotiations at the end of last week to fix prices had made considerable progress. There was a growing agreed opinion, that the price rise would have to be of about the 10.5 per cent average suggested by the European commission and that a revaluation of green rates could be agreed.

The biggest difficulty was in negotiating a price for wine, with France pressing very strongly in the face of almost total opposition that this had to be agreed on its own.

This alone makes it unlikely that France will on its own decide to implement national aids for its farmers covering the difference between current EEC farn rices and the 10.5 per cent Commission proposal. It would be difficult for France to justify such a move, which would put severe strains on the common agricultural policy at a time when it is one of the main countries holding up agreement on the price package.

The wine dossier is a principle one for behind the scenes negotiation over the next fortnight. Therefore, so that it will be the more easy to agree agriculture prices at the next meeting and so clear the way for a settlement of the budget question, Britain's negotiators at that meeting will need all the help they can find to achieve a settlement.



Reagan woos pro-west Caribbean premiers

From Jeremy Taylor, Port of Spain, April 6

President Reagan is due in Jamaica tomorrow for a short official visit on his way to an Easter weekend in Barbados.

The trip was originally planned as a working holiday at the invitation of the veteran film actress Claudette Colbert, but it is now likely to leave Mr Reagan little time for sunbathing or talking over old Hollywood times.

In Jamaica the President will meet Mr Edward Seaga, the Prime Minister, his strongest Caribbean supporter, while in Barbados he will meet several pro-American leaders from the smaller eastern Caribbean islands, including the Prime Ministers of Barbados, Antigua, Dominica and St Vincent.

Left wing leaders in the area — St Lucia's interim Prime Minister Mr Michael Pilgrim and Grenada's Prime Minister, Mr Maurice Bishop — have pointedly not been invited.

On Easter Sunday the Reagans will worship in a seventeenth-century Anglican church.

Mr Reagan will be the first incumbent United States president to set foot in the English speaking Caribbean, where American officials are playing down the trip's significance.

"Barbados is a nice country," said Mr Robert Ryan, coordinator of Mr Reagan's Caribbean basin initiative last week, "and the President deserves a vacation."

But the real objective is clearly to show an American commitment to the major pro-Western, free enterprise governments in the area.

Crusaders in a dugout

Iranian guest for martyrdom

From Robert Fisk, Dusalli, Heights, Western Iran, April 6

The dugout was small, with thick dust in the air. There were weapons attached to the mud-and-wooden framed walls — a captured Iraqi submachine gun and an automatic rifle — and a few steel helmets piled in a corner. The light from the sand-bagged doorway forced its way into the little bunker, defining the features of the six young Irnaian soldiers in one dimensional perspective, like an Orpen painting of the First World War trenches.

There was no monstrous anger of the guns, only a dull, occasional vibration to indicate that the Iraqis had not abandoned all their artillery when they retreated from Dezful.

There, however, the parallel ended. For the youngest soldier was only 14, his voice unbroken by either fear or adulthood. The oldest was 21, an Islamic volunteer from Iran's "Reconstruction Crusade," who expounded the principles of martyrdom as the guns boomed away distantly outside.

We were just six miles from the Iraqi frontier, at the very northern tip of the Iranian Army's newly-extended and potentially vulnerable front-line. Martyrdom is an oft talked-off subject here, much revered because it is much witnessed.

The 14-year-old said two of his friends from Kerman had died in the fighting — one his own age and the other only a year older. He had cried, he said, when the authorities delayed his journey to the battlefront. His comments were at one and the same time both incredible and genuine, clearly unstaged since we had only by chance run to his dugout when we took cover from the shell fire outside.

There was no doubt, however, which of the soldiers most clearly understood the ideology of martyrdom inside this claustrophobic bunker of sand and dirt.

When we asked why Iranians should be so apparently willing to die in battle, the soldiers nodded towards a young man, bearded and intense with a rifle in his hands, sitting cross-legged on a dirty rug by the entrance. In the West, he said, it was difficult — erhaps impossible — to understand Iran's apparent desire for martyrdom. But, we asked, did he want to die in this war?

The young man spoke loudly, with monotone passion, preaching rather than answering our question. Hassan Qasqavi, soldier of the volunteer Reconstruction Crusade, was a man whose face went beyond such questions.

"It is impossible for you in the West to understand", he said. "We do not seek death but we regard death as a journey from one form of life to another and to be martyred while opposing God's enemies brings us closer to God.

"There are two phases to martyrdom: We approach God, and we also remove the obstacles that exist between God and the people. Those who create obstacles for God in this world are the enemies of God."

There could be no doubt that he identified the Iraqis with these theologically hostile forces. Indeed, as if on cue from God rather than the Army of President Saddam Hussein of Iraq, there was a loud rumble of artillery and Qasqavi raised his finger towards heaven.

We waited to see where the shell would land, fearing the direct hit that soldiers prefer not to think about. There was a bursting explosion outside the trench parapet beyond the bunker, the vibration physically shaking the dugout.

Quasqavi seemed grateful for the shell burst. "Our first duty," he proclaimed, "is to kill the enemy forces so that God's order will be everywhere. Becoming a martyr is not a passive thing, like standing somewhere and waiting to be killed. It is an active thing. Hussein, the Third Imam, killed as many of his enemies as possible before he was martyred, so we must try to remain alive."

If we could not understand this, Quasqavi explained it was because the European Renaissance had done away with religion, no longer paying attention to morality or to the ethics, concentrating only upon materialism.

There was no staunching this monologue, no opportunity to transfuse this belief with arguments about humanism or love. "Europe and the West have confined spiritual issues to the corner of churches", Quasqavi went on. "Western people are like fih in the water; they can only understand their immediate surroundings. They don't care about spirituality."

He bade us goodbye with no ill will, offering us fresh Shiraz oranges as we left the dugout for the dangerous, bright sand outside.

Skier buried for five days

Tahoe City, California. — Miss Anna-Maria Conrad, was recovering after spending five days and nights buried under an avalanche at Alpine Meadows ski resort near here.

The avalanche killed seven other skiers. Miss Conrad, who is 22, was saved by an air pocket 5ft long and 2ft wide. She was unharmed except for a few bruises and slightly frostbitten feet.

Belgrade wary on détente

From Dessa Trevisan, Belgrade, April 6

Mr Andrei Gromyko[illegible]he Soviet Foreign Minister, [illegible]id on leaving Belgrade th[illegible]his two-day visit had been [illegible]th useful and necessary, [illegible]ntinuing the impression [illegible]hat the talks had helpe[illegible] to clarify respective pos[illegible]ons but that differences rem[illegible].

Mr Gromyko, how[illegible]er, refused to commen[illegible] on President Reagan's pr[illegible]osal to meet Mr Brezhnev i[illegible] New York later this year.

As Mr Bromyko w[illegible] the first high ranking Russ[illegible] to visit Yougslavia since [illegible]resident Tito's death i[illegible] May 1980, the visit was ta[illegible] up almost entirely by ta[illegible] on international affairs.

The object of the vi[illegible] for the Soviet Union, was [illegible] get Yugoslavia's blank [illegible]eque support for Mr Bre[illegible]ev's proposals for peace[illegible]. But although Yugoslavia [illegible]welcomed the proposals [illegible] the principle that anything [illegible]med at disarmament was w[illegible]ome, it still maintains the vi[illegible] that it cannot support [illegible]ente confined to two maj[illegible] powers alone.

The view was em[illegible]sized when Mr Josip [illegible]ovec Yugoslavia's Foreign [illegible]inister, said that only by [illegible]moving the causes of [illegible]sion, which in the Yugos[illegible] view originates from the [illegible] of force and interventio[illegible] could peace be a lasting one[illegible]

Nevertheless th[illegible] final communiqué underli[illegible] the generalties on which [illegible] two sides could easily [illegible] full agreement, such [illegible] the necessity of stopp[illegible] the arms race.

The visit therefo[illegible]ended by reaffirming r[illegible]ective positions but the [illegible]oslavs went furhter than t[illegible] Soviet proposals as a ste[illegible] the right direction.

Letter from Moscow

Galloping automania afflicts Russians

Go to a smart party in Moscow nowadays and you will find people clustered round the guest of honour, filling up his drink, inviting him to their dachas, and surreptitiously scribbling down his private phone number. It man be a well-known actor or poet, but more likely the star of the evening is someone every top official wants to get to know — a good garage mechanic.

The age of the automobile has descended on the Russians with a vengeance. The business of buying, running and maintaining a car must be more time-consuming and fray more tempers in this country than almost anywhere else. It is not simply that cars are hard to get and cost a great deal. You have to be a crook, a millionaire of a self-taught mechanic if you want to keep you car on the road.

Car production is outstripping that of spare parts and the growth of garages at an alarming rate. Of 750,000 new vehicles produced each year, the state repair stations can handle only 38 per cent. One newspaper calculated that a private motorist in the provinces spends on average 60 hours to get one repair performed. And even then he cannot be sure his car comes home any better. A spot check at Moscow's central service station for Zhiguli cars — the popular version of the Fiat — found excessive exhaust emission in seven cars in a row which had just had their carburettors adjusted.

When the inspector tested the brakes of one car it practically refused to stop. The station foreman explained that the car's new brake shoes would perform poorly "only for the first 20 to 50 kilometres", but said that in any case the garage was simply asked to fit them, not to make sure they worked.

Making spares is new cottage industry

The answer of course is to get the job done privately on the side — as half all Soviet car-owners do. For this you need a good mechanic who can not only get away with moonlighting, but can lay his hands on the elusive spare parts. The simplest way is to steal them from the state garages, thus making the shortages worse. Some enterprising mechanics fashion the required pieces on home lathes, and this has grown into quite a cottage industry.

I know of a man who broke down near Kursk in the depths of southern Russia. He was told he would have to wait four weeks for the required part, but he could find help at the local computer factory. When he made the right contact there, the man was apologetic because he could not provide that particular part on the spot. "But wait a couple of hours, and we'll get it made." It turned out that virtually the entire workforce was engaged not in manufacturing computers but in improvising much needed car spares.

It is worse if you are one of the few lucky Russians to boast a foreign car — the ultimate in prestige. The problem is that diplomats who ship home their new Mercedes, or ballet stars, who use the cash earned on foreign tours to get a Volvo, do not realize the toll the Russian winter and the spring roads take on even the hardiest foreign car. And back home there are no foreign car agents of available sums of foreign currency to import spares.

Of coursse, the mechanics at the state garage that services foreigners' cars have not been slow to see their way to a fortune. If you send your Volvo in to get the wheels balanced, you may find it comes home minus six os seven vital engine parts. It demands a great deal of vodka and other worthwhile considerations to ensure the mechanic's loyalty is to you and not to his other clients.

Service stations may go into private sector

Most Russians remove any extras that can be purloined: wing mirrors often find their way into women's handbags as make-up mirrors and windscreen wipers can vanish in five minutes. There was a nice irony when Christina Onassis married her Russian husband in Moscow. As the happy couple emerged from the Palace of Weddings, the richest woman in the world was escorted to her husband's waiting grey Volga, from which he had carefully detached the wipers in case they were nicked during the wedding ceremony.

But all this does not dampen rising automania in the Soviet Union. Georgians are the worst affected. I was once approached by a swarthy man as I was getting into my modest Zhiguli and offered thousands of roubles in cash on the spot. When the British Ambassador was rash enough to take the official Rolls down to Georgia a few years ago, his party had to fend off prospective buyers who produced astronomical sums in fat wads from their pockets. It is even rumoured that, one by one, cars from the exotic fleet in President Brezhnev's stable have been finding their way down to the southern free-wheeeling republic.

Soviet officials are seriously talking now about turning the service stations over to the priivate sector in order to cope, and experiments have began on these lines in the Baltic republics. Officials have tried everything to hold back the sales of cars, from doubling the price of petrol to lengthening the waiting lists for purchases.

Michael Binyon

n Moscow

automania
Russians

Service stations may go into private sector

Michael Binyon

Television

Paternal powers

Last night was Authority Night. Young Arnold in QED (BBC 1) could not get enough of it and was serio-comically instructed in the New Lifemanship of power by figures as old as Macchiavelli and as new as John T. (*Dress for Success*) Molloy. Pope John Paul II (Everyman, BBC 1) was perhaps grabbing back too much — not for himself, the distinction was made clear, but for his office. Whistling Wally (Play for Today, BBC 1) had given up the authority of a father in order to make the lads in the pub laugh and forget the awfulness of their lives in the rolling mill, whilst everyone wanted a great deal more authority — as, indeed, of everything else they already possessed in abundance, this being the West Coast of America — in Desmond Morris's new series, The Human Race (Thames).

Best of all is to be a Californian bishop and dress in the clothes of the European Counter-Reformation: that way you not only reach the altar unmolested down a broad division of the devout and get to christen the baby or confirm the child, but you are, Dr Morris told us, invested with the Authority of Time. Which brings us back to the Pope.

Despite a trick of speaking about the media as if it were a distasteful social disease virulent beyond the *Everyman* patch, Peter France's doctrinal summary of Karel Wojtyla was instructive and sharp, the best programme of the night. The silliest, by far, was *The Human Race*, whose ingredients — freeways, tits, Vivaldi, bums, drums and sunset over the Bay — became as predictable as its analogies between primitive and sophisticated human and animal behaviour now seem glib, dated and banal.

QED, also new last night, should turn out less homogenized since it aims to popularize general science, medicine and technology in a different way each week: the first programme was fun, but fey. Wally K. Daly's play was unsentimental and touching: the pub clown died of cancer, and the son grew up in the days around the death: The message was that of Storey, Barstow and Braine: get out now, even if you come back later, and the boy did. Well acted by Mark Botham and Kenneth Farrington; producer, Innes Lloyd, director Gerald Blake.

Michael Ratcliffe

Cinema

A creation of mankind

'Quest for Fire', already with cult status in the United States, opens in London tomorrow. **George Perry** interviews its director and investigates the extraordinary problems of location shooting

"For years I have wanted to do a film about mankind's start — the last lap before modern man," says Jean-Jacques Annaud, director of *Quest for Fire*. His film opens in London tomorrow after success in Annaud's native Paris, and the United States, where it has assumed an immediate cult status. Prehistory has attracted film-makers before, but rarely seriously. "I looked at several — Raquel Welch with the dinosaurs in *One Million Years BC* and *Prehistoric Women* in their leather bikinis walking through a Shepperton forest." Annuad has used a novel by J. H. Rosny Senior, published in France in 1911, as the basis of his film, which attempts to conjure up a realistic paleolithic Europe 80,000 year ago, with vast, untamed plains and mountain ranges, swamps and dense forests, where herds of mammoths and sabre-toothed tigers are still extant, sharing existence with humans in various stages of development.

"Gérard Brach [Polanski's screenwriter on many films from *Knife in the Water* onwards] and I agreed that the book as it stood was a disaster, and we quickly left it behind. But there was something in it I loved — this sense of prehistoric fear.

"It's like science fiction without the technology, but with the feelings. Hardly anything is known of these early men, but it is not hard to see that those with intelligence could win and survive. Possession of fire meant the ability to make metal tools, to cease to be primitive. There was something mystical about the flame. Once they had it they would keep it going for years — it mustn't die."

Brach and Annaud asked Anthony Burgess to devise a language for the film, so that the actors communicate in real words rather than grunts. Burgess applied himself to the task of creating a prehistoric philology with relish. Similarly, Desmond Morris was asked to choreograph an appropriate body language, eliminating modern gestures.

The actors are as yet little-known, and are as likely to be recognized in the street after this film as Darth Vader. Everett McGill, who plays the leader, Naoh, Ron Perlman, the less bright Amoukar, and Nameer El-Kadi, the gentler Gaw, spent up to three hours each day before filming having moulded latex face masks applied to give their features an ape-like aspect. Perlman, a wry New Yorker, comments: "They stayed put, even in 115 degree heat, but it was murder if you had an itch. And you couldn't sweat through them. At the end of the day when they took them off there would be about a litre of perspiration inside."

Initially the film was to have been shot in Iceland and Kenya, but a management shift at Columbia caused them to drop the project. Another company, Twentieth Century-Fox, picked it up but the Screen Actors' Guild strike foiled production. With changes of key personnel it then became a French-Canadian project (some scenes were actually shot in Canada) and Scotland was substituted for Iceland. For months the cast faced conditions ranging from the bone-rotting chill of the Cairngorms to the baking heat of a Kenyan soda lake, wearing only their skins, or in the case of the girl, Rae Dawn Chong, a coat of grey paint with chipmunk stripes.

"If Jean-Jacques wants us to act miserable then he believes that the circumstances must be miserable", says Perlman after a hard day at Lake Magadi, near the Tanzania border. "It's very easy to find oneself making a modern gesture when you're barefoot on needle-sharp rocks!"

"To get spontaneity from the actors", says Annaud, "I use a long lens for much of the time. Technique kills art. I stay far enough away that they are not aware of the technique. I wanted them to feel free. This is not a film with elaborate special effects — the lab technique did not fit the picture. The pleasure as a director comes from directing good actors and the editing.



Naoh (left), Gaw and Amoukar (Everett McGill, Nameer El-Kadi and Ron Perlman) take refuge from a tiger

"The hardest part was shooting with animals, particularly the elephants." Jimmy Chipperfield rounded up a number of circus elephants who were dispatched to the Scottish highlands and given hair-pieces and lengthy tusks to simulate mammoths. They were a disaster. On the first day they charged the wrong way, destroying the camera tent. Fourteen elephants trampled on the equipment boxes containing cameras, lenses, filters, spares worth thousands, and miraculously (a great tribute to the sturdiness of Samuelson's cases) not a single one was broken. On the second day again they went in an unexpected direction, straight into a morass, and one of their number nearly drowned. Filming was at a standstill while a hundred people tried to work out how to extricate an elephant from a Scottish bog, scarcely an everyday problem. On the third day the recalcitrant creatures attacked their costumes and tore their furry rugs off. On the fourth day they ran on past the camera and stampeded the wardrobe tent, much to the discomfort of those within, sheltering from the cold. Eventually the scene was completed in Canada.

Annaud is 38, infectiously enthusiastic, at his best when the going is rough. He likes to regard himself as the Gallic equivalent of Alan Parker and Ridley Scott. Like them he was a highly successful director of television commercials. He dropped his lucrative career at roughly the same time as they did and moved into features. His first, a satire on war and colonialism in Africa, *Black and White in Colour*, won an Academy Award. His second was *Coup de Tête*, a send-up of bourgeois hyprocrisy in a small French town. *Quest for Fire* is only his third film; he does not believe in churning them out.

"A very busy director will do a film a year. I'll do one every three. I believe in staying very close to my work — I think that must be a European attitude. I cannot plan out my career a long way ahead. In a way I admire people who can write another film while they are shooting one. Even as we sit here in this Nairobi restaurant at dinner, the only thing I have in the forefront of my mind is the scene that I shall be shooting tomorrow."

Theatre

Unjustified privilege

Beyond the Footlights

Lyric, Hammersmith

The Cambridge Footlights supply a perennial exception to the rule that lightning never strikes twice in the same place; and this constitutes a perennial hazard to each new generation of undergraduate entertainers emerging from the university stage only to be told they are not as good as Jack Hulbert, Jonathan Miller or John Cleese.

There is nothing in this show that tempts you to predict a glittering theatrical future for any of the five members of the company, but jointly their personalities and separate skills do form an effective company, and — an unusual merit in Oxbridge revue — they spend at least as much time in making fun of themselves as in having a jolly good old sneer at the world outside.

A strong sense of unjustified privilege runs through the show, as in Emma Thompson's hippophilic envy of working-class children who go to day schools and thus escape being separated from their ponies for three whole months, and Hugh Laurie's description of the ideological torment he went through before accepting a whacking grant from the UGC. They even have a heartfelt blues on lacking anything to feel blue about.

Frequent projections of the placid Cambridge scene, together with a hulking teddy bear baring its teeth upstage, serve as a constant reminder that the five know where they are at and feel uneasy about it: and when they move out of this cocoon it is with the knowledge of what they have learnt inside it.

The various boss figures —bullying attorneys, captains of industry—are built up from the model of a tutor who cannot remember a student's surname but finds it deeply suspicious that his friends call him Kim. It is only one move from this collegiate ogre to the beaming executive who has just published a pamphlet on "Sacking for Pleasure", and the Cabinet resolution to dispatch Edward Fox to sort out the Argentines.

The specialist in top dogs is Stephen Fry, a harmless lanky figure who seems built for nothing more energetic than pouring out dry sherries, but who possesses an unnerving gift for repeating back harmless remarks as damaging admissions and allowing a charming smile to freeze into a hangman's smirk.

The other theme running through the show is that of Victorian parody, as with an amended version of Dracula (the castle door is opened by a ghoul called Travolta), and a Dickensian last chapter where the orphaned heroine is reunited with her fatherly protector who briskly orders her down to the kitchens.

These are mildly amusing, as are an education debate conducted in Unwinisms, a stream - of - consciousness chess match and a running gag featuring a sculpture called "Conversation Piece" which strikes its viewers dumb.

However, with the exception of the concluding Ayckbourn charade, there is nothing you could call hilarious; and too much nonsense dialogue and joke pronunciation. Emma Thompson, the most versatile of the team, also makes up for their musical deficiency. Though, having said that, I must record Robert Bathurst's number "I want to shoot somebody famous" as the one item where the show breaks out of its undergraduate shell to say something direct and frightening about the life beyond it.

Irving Wardle

Concerts

Polish CO/ Maksymiuk

Barbican Hall

Within a short while, Jerzy Maksymiuk and his Polish Chamber Orchestra have established themselves as firm favourites here, through records and visits. It is good to hear them so soon in the new Barbican Hall, where they are playing two programmes. On Monday they already sounded at home there: it may not be irrelevant that their soloist for the evening was Yehudi Menuhin, who has worked a good deal in its acoustics, albeit as orchestral conductor rather than concerto soloist, and must have been able to pass useful tips to his Polish colleagues about projection of tone and orchestral balance in the new auditorium.

Except that the harpsichord continuo gave, for my taste, rather too discreet support to his string colleagues, the performance of Handel's A major Concerto Grosso from the Op 6 set, typified Maksymiuk's music-making.

The soft countertheme, in the first movement, was boldly dapper, almost foppish, yet so exactly controlled as to remain always well-mannered. The fugue maintained a spry pace, always its music in sharp, exhilarating focus. The violin solo passages were exquisitely delivered by Jan Stanienda, as if to say "Trump that, Yehudi".

On came Menuhin to play three concertos from Vivaldi's celebrated Op 8, and out came the trumps. Menuhin excels in music which he has known for a long time, but does not often play at concerts; he loves it especially if it is difficult, as much in these concertos is. Maksymiuk did not allow him to dawdle, but Menuhin was game, and gave us classical violin playing to clean the ears and ravish the senses.

His technique was tested to the full in the finale of the eleventh concerto in D, but he held his own (he even encored two movements). His musicianship was heard at its greatest in the C minor concerto called "Sospetto", whose manner closely approaches J. S. Bach. There was never a moment when Menuhin's audibility was in doubt, in a hall where soloists are supposed still to be acoustically underprivileged.

William Mann

Perlman/Canino

Festival Hall

When the C major Fantasy, D934, for violin and piano had its first performance, in Vienna in 1828, the year of Schubert's death, a newspaper critic wrote: "The hall gradually emptied and your correspondent admits that he, too, is unable to say how this piece finished." Well, Itzhak Perlman and Bruno Canino played it on Monday, and, like everyone else in the Festival Hall, I stayed until the end.

Though not well known, its Deutsch number indicates that the Fantasy was written in proximity to such works as the *Winterreise* song cycle and E flat Piano Trio. But after a characteristically poetic introduction, played with great purity on this occasion, this is a quite different proposition. In place of, say, the private griefs of *Winterreise*, there is a grandiose brilliance, and Schubert in fact composed it for Josef Slavik, whom Chopin later called "a second Paganini".

Yet although Mr Perlman — and Mr Canino at the piano — took full advantage of the opportunities it offered, their interpretation was, of course, an acutely musical one. Indeed, there was much highly expressive playing in the Fantasy's central variations, these being on Schubert's earlier song, "Sei mir Gegrusst".

This piece was preceded by a Sonata in D major by Handel, a substantial and comparatively late work. Mr Perlman's violin tone was beautifully sweet in the two slow movements, which had a striking air of spaciousness. The two Allegros were decisive yet utterly relaxed, the contrapuntal features of the first being nicely pointed by each performer. However, I must confess that I found these less engaging than the canonic writing in Schubert's opening movement when his first Hungarian-style theme is recapitulated.

Stravinsky based his ballet *The Fairy's Kiss* on music by Tchaikovsky and later arranged an orchestral suite from it which he named Divertimento. The Divertimento for violin and piano derives from this, being, therefore, Stravinsky's reduction of his arrangement of his recomposition of Tchaikovsky's original pieces. In the hands of Messrs Perlman and Canino both composers survived these various processes well.

In this form the Divertimento is, in fact, an agreeably astringent set of four movements, and Monday's reading balanced an appreciation of the music's inventive wit with a wholly apt feeling of intellectual excitement. On melodic, harmonic and especially rhythmic planes Stravinsky makes countless departures from Tchaikovsky's texts, and we were led towards a proper understanding of their significance.

Max Harrison

Opera

The Force of Destiny

Dominion

Whether it be destiny, accident or coincidence that plots the moves in the operatic narrative, it can only seek theatrical salvation through Verdi's music. For various reasons this was far from being achieved when the Welsh National Opera decided to open their week-long Amoco Festival of Opera with it on Monday.

Odd to announce it as *La forza del destino* when it is sung in English, although I should have remembered that its East German producer, Joachim Herz, prefers opera always to be given in the language of its audience. Presumably in this case he is anxious for the political message to get across having altered (with consent) some passages in Andrew Porter's translation so as to give it not only "social relevance" but a racialist slant which is seen to be reinforced by the casting.

It cannot be said to help much else, for both the black tenor Moises Parker, as Don Alvaro, and the white baritone Norman Phillips, as the vengeful Don Carlos, sounded greatly overstrained by the vocal demands, especially in their confrontations. The tenor was at least ingratiating in tone, but their inadequacy for these particular roles called in question such a choice of opera for the Welsh company's repertory.

Richard Armstrong's conducting was a redeeming feature, giving the music its required breadth and spirit, and drawing a notably good orchestral response. Elizabeth Vaughan had the measure of Leonora in vocal character, though not in sustained line: her scene with Don Garrard's splendid Father Superior was the highpoint of a performance which, as a warning to the unwary, runs more than two hours before the first (and only) interval, shoved in the middle of Act III.

For much of this time I thought the production held the sprawling narrative together quite well in spite of generally dour designs. Thereafter not even the excellent chorus singing could save it from falling apart amid the topless incursions in the tarantella (Claire Powell, a spirited Preziosilla). The abrupt return to Verdi's first ending, discarding the final trio, is neither musically nor dramatically persuasive.

Noël Goodwin

Dance

Nureyev's Paris

When Rudolf Nureyev walks into the ballet director's office at the Paris Opéra in September next year he will be taking on one of the most difficult, but potentially rewarding, jobs to be found in the world of dance today. One of the oldest companies in Europe, the ballet of the Paris Opéra can trace its foundation back to 1661. It has also proved in recent years to be one of the hardest to direct and, since the resignation of Serge Lifar in 1959, has seen a succession of directors, few of whom have lasted for more than a few years.

Throughout its history, which in the last decade has included at least one closure, and any number of strikes by both dancers and technicians, the dancers have maintained an astonishingly high level of technical attainment, as London audiences will see for themselves when the company visits Covent Garden in July this year. What it has lacked since the departure of Lifar is a leader strong enough, and with adequate backing, to cope with the byzantine intrigues of the rigidly structured house. Nureyev, it is widely thought, will carry this kind of authority and has worked previously with the incoming administrator, Massimo Bogdianckino.

His contract runs for three years, starting with the 1983-84 season (Rosella Hightower, the outgoing director whose resignation is effective from July this year, has agreed to stay on for one further season). Nureyev's contract requires him to be with the company for 180 days, roughly half the year, and he will dance with them about 40 times each season.

He will be responsible for staging or choreographing one new production each year, and in a recent conversation he indicated that these were likely to be standard classical works. Likely stagings are his own productions of *The Nutcracker* and *Romeo and Juliet*. He also has in mind a new production of *Swan Lake*, but for this, rather than importing the production he made for the ballet of the Vienna Staatsoper, he spoke of mounting a version as close as possible to the 1895 Petipa original.

Another condition he has insisted on is the continuance of the regular seasons outside the Opéra which have been a feature of Hightower's regime.

Judith Cruickshank

Jazz

Art Blakey

Ronnie Scott's

To most bandleaders, the problem of replacing the prodigious Marsalis brothers, whose own ensemble made its bow in New York last week, would have been terrifying. For Art Blakey, however, it is merely another chapter in the history of the Jazz Messengers since 1954; wisely, he uses such goings and comings to maintain the group in a constant state of creative alertness.

The holdovers from the Messengers who so memorably visited Frith Street towards the end of last year are Bill Pierce, the tenor saxophonist whose gravity and self-possession never distill into mere solemnity, and whose ideas are so complex as to suggest those of Warne Marsh translated to a hard-bop context, and Charles Fambrough, now perhaps the best double-bassist of his kind, which is to say that he can walk a 4/4 with huge authority and considerable imagination.

To fill the gaps in the front line left by the departing Marsalises, Blakey has gone to the same source: the trumpeter Terry Blanchard and the alto saxophonist Donald Harrison are both young men from New Orleans, and although it would be devaluing recent (and carefully chosen) superlatives to compare them favourably with their immediate predecessors, they give the same impression of being all gassed up and ready to burn rubber.

Blanchard has some of Wynton Marsalis's audacity, tempered with a likable diffidence; his momentum splutters sometimes, but ideas cartwheel off at unexpected tangents. At the moment, Harrison is the more interesting player; he has a big, commanding tone, full of life, and allows careering up-tempo lines to splinter into seemingly opposed but brilliantly linked fragments. Together with Pierce, they maintain throughout the unit's outstanding repertoire the sense of barely suppressed ensemble power which was a hallmark of the last line-up.

Richard Williams

Henry Fairlie reports on the surge of pro-British feeling in Washington over the Falklands

By jingo, we're all rooting for you

Members of the numerous but not usually very gregarious British community in Washington were by last Saturday closing ranks. Expatriates who have not thought of home for years met and abruptly asked each other if they had yet enlisted. Even those who have all but renounced their allegiance to the Queen for the pecuniary rewards of working as an international civil servant in the World Bank had a rush of blood to their heads.

A rather dour acquaintance, who one has always suspected must have come here after being cashiered from the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers for an unspeakable offence, brightened appreciably as he said: "I did not think that there would ever again be the occasion to fight for the empire". Another waxed with indignation as he corrected an American: "By God, man, do you not understand that it is a crown colony?"

There were 50 princesses in the city on Saturday, each from a different state, celebrating the annual cherry blossom festival. But not even they could compete with the news, which, with pardonable exaggeration, was whispered through the crowds on Constitution Avenue: "Prince Andrew is leading the Queen's Navee". It was an affecting day for Her Majesty's subjects here but what mattered more was how it affected the Americans.

We had steeled ourselves to meet the attempts at a graceless and disparaging humour. In the opening to almost every story the Falkland Islands were described as "remote" or "obscure". Washington's own and very funny political satirist, Mr Mark Russell, a nightclub performer, was appearing at a private party on Saturday. He began by suggesting that Mr Alexander Haig had difficulty in finding where the islands were.

An Englishman shouted a warning that HMS Invincible was on its way. It was a shot across Mr Russell's bows, which he seemed deliberately to mishear. "HMS Principal?" he queried with a sniff; or did he mean "HMS Principle"? Backed by the huzzas of a few or our countrymen, even less numerous than the garrison on the Falklands, the Englishman warned that they were an advance naval party.

It seemed clear that we were to be met only "with scoffs, and scorns and contumelious taunts". But when Mr Russell at last came to sing his ditty about the evil aggression, he had a pleasant and even exhilarating surprise in his four stanzas. He writes his new material in response to the day's events quickly. But not even he could have altered his song on his feet as a result of the shot across his bows.

He had set his words to a jaunty, rather Gilbert-and-Sullivan martial air, but not one word failed to punch home. In his first stanza, he flayed Argentina, savagely mocking its pretensions. Listing the components of its invasion force, he concluded with "the cast of *Evita*". The brave huzzas of the small British contingent were now drowned by the swelling chorus of high-spirited Yankee support.

No-one could compete with the news: 'Prince Andrew is leading the Queen's Navee'

In his second stanza, his tinkling on the piano only reinforcing his words, he fired his broadside. Having once held back the Nazis single-handed, the British were now being invaded by the Nazis' grandsons. As he let the last line fly — something like "The grandsons of Bormann, and Hitler, et al" — the Yankee laughter broke into cheers. George III could have entered the party and been carried shoulder-high.

So to the parting shot in the last line of the song. The British had discovered that the invasion was an Irish plot. There could have been no more unexpected or funnier ending. But the laughter which erupted also carried wave after wave of resounding cheers. Unmistakably they were anti-Argentina and pro-British. The Englishman *who had led the first assault with* his small band felt like Sir Roger Keyes at Zeebrugge.

The party was being held to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the opening of a bar near the White House, used mainly by politicians and journalists and those who hang about the margins of both professions. *Therefore most* of the packed audience were regulars who are politically sensitive, which means that their reactions may not be characteristic of ordinary Americans. But it no less means that they are interesting.

One could feel the two unmistakable sentiments being woven together by Mr Russell: the surge of pro-British feeling that simply warmed the cockles of one's heart; and the release of a pent-up impatience and disgust with all the shabby dictatorships of Latin America. The mastery in Mr Russell's song was precisely the linking of Britain's stand against the Nazis who fled to Argentina to all the wretched South American dictatorships.

Even if the audience was politically uncharacteristic in its sophistication and sensitivity, it was composed mostly of people who to some degree both register and form public opinion. There is a growing distaste and resentment in the United States *at the way the Administration* seem willing to truckle to any corrupt and violent regime if only it can present right-wing credentials to satisfy Mr Reagan.

If the British throw the Argentines out of the Falkland Islands, more Americans than perhaps Mr Reagan realizes will stand up and cheer. They cheered and even marvelled when the British in one afternoon repossessed an embassy in London, while all the power of the US could not get its own people out of its own embassy in Teheran. They will cheer again if the British, in a famous metaphor, now hit the Argentines for six.

One returns then to the serious expressions of opinions here. The newspapers begin by making allowance for what *The New York Times* calls "the comic-opera aspects of the event". *The Washington Post* on Sunday could not decide how to place these comic aspects. On its front page, it referred to the whole affair as "a cross between a nineteenth century melodrama and a Peter Sellers farce". In its editorial, it said that the crisis has "an Alec Guinness quality".

But before *The Washington Post* discovers that it is all much more like Margaret Rutherford in an Agatha Christie film — or the *Goon Show* or even *Itma*, if its memory stretched back so far — one must read on to what these solemn organs of opinion have really said in the intensity of their first animadversions. They are clearly and firmly pro-British and anti-Argentina, and add the weight to Mr Russell's act and his audience's response.

Mrs Thatcher needs the voice of Elizabeth I to her army at Tilbury . . .

The Washington Post says: "The British do not appear to be in a mood to be pushed around; The Brits have nothing to apologize for in the Falklands". It goes on: "Argentina committed aggression. By doing so it removes itself from consideration as an American partner in other hemispheric matters". What one must notice again are the complementary wishes that Argentina and not Britain should be humilated.

The New York Times says of Argentina: "Beyond that, the Administration will have to think seriously about its relations with a regime that, for all its verbal tirades against communism, provides grain and comfort to the Soviet Union, but mainly human rights embarrassments and military affronts to its western friends". All of these reactions are vital. The British need to realize that they do not only have sympathy here but can have support.

This is a time for the British Government to play skilfully but with candour on American opinion. Having launched a large naval force, it must intend, and be seen to be intending the exercise of power it represents. Her Majesty's Ministers cannot let Prince Andrew lead the charge — for that is the symbol on which Americans have fixed — and then order him to retreat like the Grand Old Duke of York.

Britain can command wide popular and deeply informed support here. It cannot pursue its ends only through an American Administration which both soiled and tied its hands in Latin America. There is a potential public support for Britain here as it has not really existed since the Suez operation. If the Americans cannot win these days, then, by jingo, they are rooting for the British to win.

What is needed from Mrs Thatcher is the voice of Queen Elizabeth I to her army at Tilbury: "I know I have the body of a weak and feeble woman but I have the heart and stomach of a king, and of a king of England too, and think foul scorn that Parma or Spain, or any prince of Europe should dare to invade the borders of my realm; to which, rather than any dishonour shall grow by me, I myself will take up arms".

And I may also be allowed to speak for the British colony here: "Your Majesty, your loyal subjects here are ready, a small contingent, but with our rusted swords, last used at Marston Moor in defence of the Crown, already taken from the walls."

One person one vote: the only way for Labour

Democracy is breaking out all over the Labour Party, but in some unexpected and certainly unplanned ways. That is the main finding of the first report to be published on how constituencies voted in last year's deputy leadership contest. Today the report goes to Labour's NEC with a request for action.

It was the famous Wembley Conference which decided on a change in how Labour's leaders should be elected. In place of a franchise limited to MPs, power was to be shared with the trade unions and constituency parties.

No decision was taken on how the voting should be conducted in these two sections, although it was the intention of some to limit the constituency party's franchise to the small core of activists who make up each local party's governing body — the general committee. That is not how the reform has worked out in practice.

After all the ballyhoo of electing the deputy leader had died down we wrote in Labour's three weeklies asking for information on parties who extended the franchise beyond the hard core of activists. Forty-nine constituencies replied.

Twenty-one constituencies organized a one person, one vote system because they believed this was the only way party members would be able to have a say in the contest. Some members argued against the postal ballot on the grounds that an important principle was at stake and that only those who were prepared to give the minimum support of coming to a meeting should be allowed to vote.

Most of the 21 constituencies organized a postal vote. Three constituencies organized a ballot on the basis of local and general election procedures. Postal balloting certainly led to a *higher turn-out, involving* often more than two-thirds of the membership.

A total of 19 constituencies carried out branch ballots, but, surprisingly, there was no single way branches undertook to consult their members.

Some branches invited people to the branch meeting, and those unable to attend gained no vote. Others organized voting at branch meetings, but allowed a postal ballot for those unable to come. Others organized the vote at their regular branch meeting and took the ballot box round to those members not in attendance. There was variation, too, on how the votes were cast at the branch meeting. Some branches conducted a secret ballot while others had a show of hands.

Some branches organized transport for members who would otherwise be unable to come, and this kind of offer, together with how well the branch organized itself, helps to account for the difference in turn-out at branch meetings. One branch reported a turn-out of 77 per cent of those eligible to vote, while another recorded a turn-out as low as 20 per cent.

Nine parties held a mass meeting of members to decide their choice for deputy leader. Most made it a big event with a number of attractions other than voting for the deputy leader.

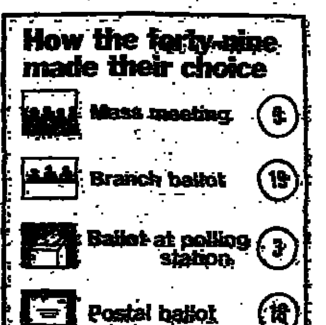
One of the unexpected consequences of the electoral college is that it has brought into being differenct classes of ordinary Labour Party members — those who vote in leadership elections and those who cannot. Some members are given the vote in leadership contests while others are disenfranchized, unless they are on their local party's general committee.

The NEC needs to act to ensure that all party members have equal rights in electing the leadership. The only way forward is for the NEC to back the principle of one person, one vote and to lay down guidelines on how votes should be cast in the constituency section before any future contest is held in the electoral college.

Our survey showed there are four important issues on which the NEC should rule: (i) Who is eligible? Many parties reported difficulty in deciding who was and who was not eligible to vote. Some decided that members had to be of 12 months' standing, others of six months' standing, while some parties settled for anybody who held a current membership card.

(ii) How to count? There was also a wide variation on how the votes were counted and what they meant once they were counted. Deciding where to count the votes can affect the outcome. Small branches gain a disproportionate representation on general committees by mandating their general committee delegates. In some instances this leads to local party supporting a candidate who, while gaining a majority of votes on the general committee, was supported by only a minority of individual branch votes.

How the forty-nine made their choice



(iii) What timetable?: It is important to lay down a *timetable for future contests.* Not only is this desirable so that campaigns don't rumble on for six or more months, but it is also crucial in getting information to local members. One constituency reported that these branches which met early in the month decided their votes before the literature from candidates arrived.

(iv) Rigging the result: In view of the lack of ground rules some constituency parties behaved less than openly. One party member wrote to say that there was no mention of the leadership contest at her branch meeting until she raised the question.

Without clear ground rules the chances are that poorer members will be excluded. We know that the poor are less likely to attend meetings than other people, and in these, as in other circumstances, a postal vote is essential. Indeed, this was the view to which some members came after they had organized a branch ballot.

After completing our survey other parties told us that this too, had extended the franchise to ordinary members. And already a number of parties which did not do so last time have decided to ballot all their members in any future contest. Most Britons regard one person, one vote as the basic way for making democratic decisions. This principle is now being firmly rooted in the electoral college. The NEC should issue guidelines to encourage its spread to all constituency parties and standardise the form of the election procedure.

David Cowling and Frank Field.

David Cowling is research assistant to Mr Peter Shaw; Frank Field is Labour MP for Birkenhead.

The man who came up with a corker

by Alan Hamilton

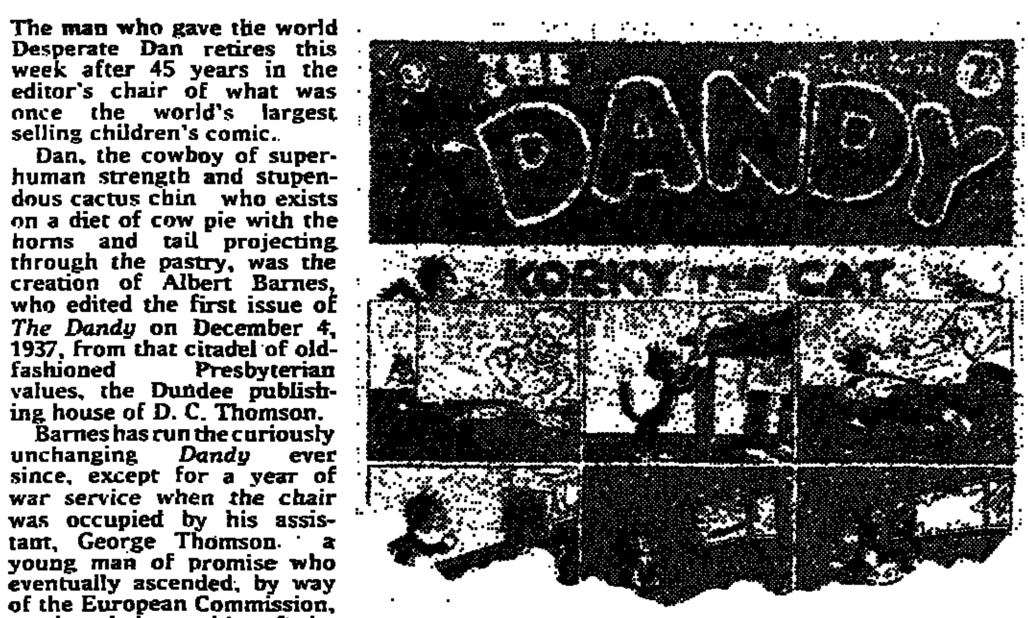
The man who gave the world Desperate Dan retires this week after 45 years in the editor's chair of what was once the world's largest selling children's comic.

Dan, the cowboy of superhuman strength and stupendous cactus chin who exists on a diet of cow pie with the horns and tail projecting through the pastry, was the creation of Albert Barnes, who edited the first issue of *The Dandy* on December 4, 1937, from that citadel of old-fashioned Presbyterian values, the Dundee publishing house of D. C. Thomson.

Barnes has run the curiously unchanging *Dandy* ever since, except for a year of war service when the chair was occupied by his assistant, George Thomson, a young man of promise who eventually ascended, by way of the European Commission, to the chairmanship of the Independent Broadcasting Authority.

"Desperate Dan was the roughest, toughest cowboy. He was to be the strongest man in the world; a man who could chew iron and spit rust. I told the artist to base him on me and give him a chin like a chest of drawers", Barnes recalls.

Thomsons wanted a picture comic for children, aged six to 10, of equal appeal to boys and girls, to complement their "famous five" clutch of children's story papers, *Wizard, Hotspur, Rover, Adventure* and *Skipper*. It was an innovation in the world of children's comics, and was followed some months later by an equally famous stablemate, *Beano*.





Comic turns: left, the first issue of The Dandy in 1937, and right, the 1982 version. Can you tell the difference?

Only Desperate Dan and Korky the Cat survive from the original cast of characters. Keyhole Kate and Hungry Horace are no more, and another early character, an unfortunately named youth called Invisible Dick, has disappeared. But the style has changed little: simple, identifiable characters tripping through banana skin and water pistol humour scoring points over parents, teachers and policemen. But no-one ever really gets hurt.

"There is never any real violence, only the cartoon kind to be found in *Tom and Jerry* where the victim always springs back unharmed", Barnes said. It gives children a chance to cock a harmless snook at authority, and sublimate their desires to kick against the traces. Sex, religion and politics are, of course, out altogether."

Well, more or less. Black Bob, the *Dandy* wonder dog, was recently kidnapped and taken to Argentina, adding fuel to the suspicion that, deep down, Argentines have alway been regarded as stereotyped baddies.

Authority has occasionally objected to the rubber bricks thrown at it in the pages of *The Dandy*. The editor of a police magazine once protested that Korky the Cat was undermining respect for the forces of law and order, when he was shown saluting a policeman with a mouse emerging from a trapdoor in his helmet.

Dentists can be sensitive too. Barnes said "We do not deliberately show a dentist with a boot on a patient's chest. But I think it is legitimate to show a kid in some dread of going to the dentist. I think there is still room for fun. And of course it is good fun when you have a teacher falling downstairs and losing half his teeth, being carted off to the dentist, and coming back with his head swathed in bandages. Of course in the next edition he has all his teeth again. It's better than recovery".

The early *Dandy* was half picture strips and half text, but it long ago abandoned the pages of words. "Television, and the consequent lack of a child's urge to read, were responsible for that," Barnes says with regret.

Television, he believes, has been responsible for a major shrinkage of the entire children's comic market. *The Dandy* is unlikely to see again its heyday of the early 1950s when it was selling 2.2 million copies a week. Thomsons claim that no comic in the world, before or since, has equalled that circulation.

D. C. Thomson, whose flagship, the Dundee *Courier*, remains the only British daily newspaper with a front page of small advertisements, are deeply secretive about circulation figures. What is known is that a quarter of the *Dandy* readership turns over each year from the inevitable process of ageing.

Barnes's successor, former *Dandy* chief sub-editor David Torrie, will hope for a regular supply of six-year-olds ready to enter his world of biffs, yikes and aarghs, of Greedy Pigg and Screwy Driver, where every sentence ends with an exclamation mark and the height of violence is a slipper on the backside.

THE TIMES DIARY

Pensioners as pioneers

Some of the Falkland Islands' early settlers were Chelsea pensioners. A number of the kelper families now under Argentine military rule are descendants of a detachment of Chelsea pensioners sent to the Falklands by the War Office as garrison-colonists in 1849.

Most of the 30 married veterans chosen for the experiment were Chelsea out-pensioners. They were given pre-fabricated wooden houses, initial supplies of fuel and food and 10 acres of land. At first most of them hated it.

Yet when the opportunity was given a few years later to return to England, only a few did so. Some had become good gardeners and others found work in the growing ship-repairing industry. Age was on their side: most of the pensioners were in their early forties or younger and one, James Brown, "pensioner and carpenter", was only 24.

Corned beef corner

It may prove difficult, in the two or three weeks it will take the naval task force to reach the Falklands, to keep up the spirit of jingoism and bellicosity which has swept the nation.

Today's jingoistic gesture will, I fear, take some of the cheerfulness out of national pride. As a token of how seriously it regards the crisis, the English Tourist Board has decided to suspend the advertisement of its Maritime England promotion, perhaps feeling it makes too poignant a reminder of past naval greatness.

On the other hand, pays to know your enemy and the Argentines do, from a safe distance, seem to be a rather loathsome lot. You will have read yesterday about the murderous Rivero, in whose honour Port Stanley is now renamed. He is, I know, not the Argentines' only folk hero with a distinctly doubtful past.

As a contribution to the national, but I hope temporary was effort, PHS will continue to welcome items of information hurtful to Argentina, and news of any ferocity laudable or laughable, here at home.

A plum of P.G.

Through his unjust disgrace in the war and his long years in exile, P.G. Wodehouse had one loyal fan — the Queen of England. Last night the Queen Mother paid a private and unannounced visit to the *World of Wodehouse* exhibition at the National Theatre, an attraction open freely to all who visit the building.

The Queen Mother is an avid reader of Wodehouse, and collects his books in her library in Scotland. She has almost all his tremendous output.

In case Her Majesty should fancy a further treat, PHS recommends *Words by Wodehouse*, for which David Ryall dons a hairless wig and does a plum of an impersonation. It is the early evening platform performance in the Olivier Theatre on April 14 and 21.

The British Standards Institution has set a new standard for British music. This news is not intended to encourage the detractors of Peter Maxwell Davies and Harrison Birtwhistle. BS 4754 applies only to the way scores and parts are presented.

Scores to British standard will henceforward be clear enough for double bass players to read without straining forward; printed on paper thick enough for the next page of notes not to show through; and in ink waterproof enough for Handel's Water Music.

The standard gives guidance on how note spacing, slurs, ties and crescendos should be represented, and takes a particularly firm line, I hear, on silences.

Chain of events

A complete glossary of health and hygiene — from Abatement notice to Zwitterion (an iron carrying both positive and negative charges, present in some detergents) — proves a rich midden of scatological information. Prepared by Mr Colin Lucas and published by Rentokil at £15, *Hygiene in Buildings* traces the history of the lavatory from the Knossos latrines, built for King Minos 3,600 years ago.

Choice pickings include the Human Lavatory — a medieval public servant who walked the streets in an immense cape which he could use to cover his customers and the pail he was carrying; and the dreadful fate of Richard the Raker, a gongfermor employed to clean latrines and cesspits who in 1326 fell through the rotten planks in his own privy and "drowned monstrously in his own excrement".

In a book full of villainous material, the few heroes include Thomas Crapper, who did the drains at Sandringham and possibly gave the language a new word; Thomas Twyford, who developed the Unitas and the ornate Deluge; and Sir John Harington who required only "halfe a tunne of water to keep all sweete and savourie" and who wrote the *Metamorphosis of Ajax* devoted to his invention, the WC.

For the squeamish there is also a good gathering of euphemisms, such as dinkum dunnie, piccaninny kiaha, Les Vaters, cuzzes, cozzy, jakes and Jericho, all of which mean much the same in one part of the world or another.

Haughtier cuisine

Culinary quaintness and rumbledethumps are out in Scotland this year, according to Colonel Pat Paterson who runs *Taste of Scotland*. Two new dishes created this year for inclusion in the *brochure are Beef Nan Eilan* — noisette of lamb and fillet of beef with contrasting cream and pickled walnut sauces — and parsnip mousse with West Coast prawns. A haughtier cuisine, at any rate, than Cullen skink and howdowdie.

Leaking boards

Very wet, Wales, and Dafydd Wigley, Plaid Cymru president and MP for Caernarfon, may have discovered the reason. He complains that while British water boards generally waste about a quarter of the water, mostly through leaks, the Welsh Water Authority loses an average of a third, and in some places a half.

The Government yesterday requisitioned all maps of the Falklands from Edward Stanford, the mapsellers in Long Acre, to help it handle the crisis. An official from the Directorate of Overseas Surveys called at the shop and hurried away with about 80 maps.

The memoir face

Joseph Gormley's autobiography, *Battered Cherub*, was appropriately written with the most modern aids to productivity. Like every good unionist Gormley had a mate on the job — ghost-writer Jeremy Hornsby, who previously worked with the disc jockey Pete Murray to produce *One Day I'll Forget My Trousers*, a volume most memorable for the cover photograph of its subject in underpants and suspenders.

Gormley, finding himself a rich vein put some half a million words on 50 tape cassettes. Hornsby sieved out the nutty slack over four years with a word processor, and his discs fuelled the computerized typesetting, making Gormley's one of the first books on the general lists to be produced by the new technology.

Falling star

Residents of New Jersey take a dim view of the twilight of the stars. For its centenary the Actors Fund of America put on a television show and raised $2m for the elderly residents of its retirement home, but now plans for a nursing home next to the residence have been squashed.

Actors Fund said it could fill its 50-bed nursing home at a fee of about $100 a day, only about a third of what elderly actors have to pay locally at present if they fall sick.

The neighbours, who have been happy to have stars of the past in their area for the last 20 years, objected in a twinkle. Mayor Sandra Greenberg said: "When I first heard of their plan for residence I applauded it, but elderly and sickly stars from around the country would certainly impact adversely on this high-class neighbourhood."

Missing minutes

Four Oscars and lavish praise for *Chariots of Fire* have been insufficient to restore 40 missing minutes to the film. It was out from a length of more than two hours for its cinema release at the insistance of Twentieth Century Fox, which shared the $6m budget for the film with the offshoot of an Egyptian shipping company.

The producer, David Puttnam, having lost his battles with Fox's nervous attitude, was delighted to hear, when the BBC started negotiating the purchase of television rights, that it would be interested in an extended version, using discarded footage.

Despite Puttnam's wholehearted support for the others, Fox abruptly vetoed it, saying that it would establish an unwelcome precedent.

There is still cause to be grateful to Fox. The BBC was among those in Britain Puttnam approached in vain, in his search for backing for *Chariots*, and another American studio rejected the project as "a real downer with no viability at all in the American marketplace because of style and tone as well as subject matter."

The eatable?

The Pet Food Manufacturers' Association announces that it will oppose the staining of offal from slaughterhouses, which, it says, would "make finished pet food products unacceptable to the pet owner". PHS would hope so too, but, horrors, the association goes on to say it has told the Government about "the important implications such staining would have on the human food chain." What is going on in this country? Are people eating the pet foods or the pets? I think we should be told.

Is the insurance business developing a conscience? A reader sends me a circular which says: "These are the main features of Crusader's Revolutionary new Guile-Edged Plan."

PHS



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WHEN THE SMOKE CLEARS

While British ships steam south through the Atlantic and the Argentines continue their efforts to fortify the islands there will be a great deal of diplomatic activity. Among other things, Britain and Argentina will be trying to rally support for their case. But it will also be a good time to consider not only what should be done when the task force reaches the Falklands but also what Britain hopes to achieve thereafter.

The immediate objective is quite clear. It is to reverse the fait accompli imposed on the islands last Friday, and in the process to show General Galtieri that such naked acts of aggression are wholly unacceptable. That is of the greatest importance. There are small countries and territories in many parts of the world, not least in Latin America itself which would be at risk if it was felt that the generals in Buenos Aires had got away with this invasion. They chose to send troops against a small and defenceless people, the citizens of a country with which they had apparently friendly relations and with which they were holding negotiations for a peaceful settlement.

But once an Argentine withdrawal has been achieved, either through diplomacy or by force, that still leaves the question of the future of the Falklands. Do we want to maintain them indefinitely as a British possession, comparable to an Isle of Man 8,000 miles away, regardless of the cost? Or do we take the view that in the long run they are too far away and too unimportant, and that they should therefore be eased into some sort of congenial relationship with Argentina? The second course is the one which has been followed in recent years, by both Conservative and Labour governments. It led to a situation in which the islands were very much dependent on the good will of Argentina, even before last Friday's attack. Apart from a ship which sailed from Tilbury four times a year, the only regular communications with the outside world were the weekly flights to and from Comodoro Rivadavia provided by the Argentine Air Force.

That was not a bad policy in itself. Admittedly it had the disadvantage of giving General Galtieri and his colleagues the impression that the British government was anxious to be rid of the Falklands, which may have encouraged them to miscalculate. But the miscalculation was not an inevitable result of the policy. If the British government had shown at an earlier stage that it was determined to defend the islands there could still have been progress.

Much will now depend on the circumstances in which, if all goes well, the Argentines are induced to depart. If they have been humiliated, they will remain uncooperative for some time. Britain will then have to maintain an active defence of the islands against a possible new attempt at invasion, and also replace the services which were provided by Argentina before the invasion. It can be done. It would have to be done. But it would be an expensive commitment to maintain over a long period.

At some point, therefore, it will be necessary to try to restore links between the islands and Argentina. This will not be easy, especially if there has been fighting. Obviously diplomatic relations would have to be restored first. But it would not be the first time in history that a showdown, whether diplomatic or military, had clarified a relationship and in the period of reconstruction provided a more realistic basis for negotiation. At all times, however, we would have to face up to the possibility that such attempts would be unsuccessful. Our future policy for the Falklands can never again be allowed to depend on an Argentine veto.

It is not too early to look ahead in this way, even though the immediate future is murky. Britain did not seek or provoke a conflict with Argentina and has no wish for a long period of hostility. It must assert its rights and the principles of international law without compromise but at the same time it should make clear its desire to return as soon as possible to normal relations with Argentina. This can be achieved only if the Argentines have the same aim. The burden of proof now lies with them.

WHO'S AFRAID OF A BIG BAD BALLOT?

Of all the days of the year to select to beat the drum for a national campaign which has been slow to catch fire, Monday must have been among the most unlucky. With the fleet sailing off to glory and ministers tumbling, the country had little attention to spare for the metaphorical militancy on display at the TUC's special conference on the Employment Bill. "There will be risks, there may be casualties, we may get knocks, but we will give as good as we get", declared Mr Murray, with native caution setting his sights before battle rather lower than Mrs Thatcher was doing elsewhere.

The programme of action against the Bill, agreed with acclaim by all but a few of the unions represented, is also anything but bloodthirsty. The TUC General Council drafted it with concern not to encourage the movement's aircraft carriers to steer outside the territorial waters of legality. This showed good sense, but can have done little to persuade ordinary trade unionists with more urgent anxieties about the security of their jobs that the proposed reforms seriously amount to "a manifesto for a union-free society", as Mr Murray put it. He rejected a policy of using industrial action to bring a government down undemocratically. Other speakers, like Mr Arthur Scargill and Mr Joe Wade disregarded his lead and spoke uninhibitedly about the possibility of breaking the law in the struggle against the Bill. Major campaigns of industrial action against it, as advocated by a number of delegates, would be illegal within the terms of the Bill itself, even if not of the existing laws on political strikes and secondary action. The Bill is deftly drafted to minimise the need for active union co-operation: it will exist and influence their calculations and actions whether they like it or not, and even if employers prove reluctant, as they often may, to go to court on the strength of its provisions.

The prevailing atmosphere made Mr Murray sound pallid, and the voices which urged the dangers of a long and costly campaign embarked on without strong rank and file support were few and faint. One of the most revealing phrases of the day came when Mr Murray described the Bill as an attempt to drive a wedge between unions and their members. Some of its provisions, in particular those designed to encourage unions to test by ballot whether existing closed shops still command support among members, can indeed claim to be so. But a rift has to exist before a wedge can be driven into it, and the unpopularity of the closed shop, as well as of other equally rough and ready means of imposing union discipline, is widespread inside the movement as well as out. It is a standing reproach to the trade unions that the abandonment of such practices should need to wait for a nudge from legislation.

The truth is that the Bill is modest in its scope and its likely effects. While this hampers the campaign to present it as a threat to trade unionism as such, it also means that many reforms which would still further improve accountability have been omitted. Only last week, Mr Norman Tebbit said that his mind was not fully closed to the possibility of adding a clause to encourage the use of strike ballots in place of the factory-gate votes which are so easily manipulated. Balloting for union elections is a reform whose effects might be even more profound. Even where it does occur, balloting today is too often inadequately supervised. In the short term, legislating on these matters might tend to add them to the category of things that trade unionists refuse to see any good in because Mr Tebbit favours them. It might also increase the scope for calculated defiance and the creation of martyrs; but nothing would do more to make the movement more truly representative. The longer term, advantages would thus be manifest. If the trade union leadership wants to claim that it truly represents its members, it would be more convincing if it did not object to measures which would provide evidence for that claim. Of course they fear the evidence would undermine their claim, and thus their leadership. Let us have the evidence by introducing much more provision for balloting, both about strikes, and about leadership.

Postal watchdog

From the Chairman of the Post Office Users' National Council

Sir, In his observations on the Government's consultative document on consumers' interest and the nationalised industries (article, March 15), Mr Alex Henney, Chairman of the London Electricity Consultative Council, bemoans the absence of any proposals to give arbitration powers on the nationalised industry consumer councils.

It is arguable whether the duty of arbitration is one which is proper to a consumer council. I think it is not. The council acts principally as an advocate of the customer's case. It could not easily act as arbiter as well. Customers would be entitled to question the extent of the commitment to representing their interests.

The issue does not however arise for users of Post Office and British Telecom services. Under the Codes of Practice for Postal and Telecommunications Services published in 1979, customers may pursue unresolved claims for redress through a scheme of arbitration operated independently by the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. Whilst the arbitrator's recommendations were not legally binding, both industries declared that they would normally be honour bound to accept them.

Under the British Telecommunications Act 1981, the Post Office's legal liability has been extended to cover most things lost or damaged in the inland post. We have recently successfully concluded negotiations with the Post Office and the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators which provide for a scheme of legally binding arbitration to match the industry's new legal liabilities. This offers customers seeking redress a cheap and simple way of resolving disputes avoiding the need to make a personal appearance at a court. We are about to start discussions with British Telecom aimed at similar arrangements in respect of their legal liabilities under the BT Act.

We consider these arbitration facilities are an important feature of the machinery for dealing with customers' complaints and are pleased to have had some part in establishing them.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN MORGAN, Chairman,
Post Office Users' National Council,
Waterloo Bridge House,
Waterloo Road, SE1.

Ecosystems

From Professor C. D. Pigott

Sir, Your correspondent Dr A. S. Thomas (March 17) in his strongly worded criticism of the term ecosystem shows that he does not understand its meaning. Perhaps he has forgotten, or perhaps never read, the article written by Sir Arthur Tansley in 1935 in which the word was introduced and defined with admirable clarity.

Tansley proposed the word to describe a particular level of organization of natural systems in which vegetation, animals and the physical environment are linked together by the transfer of energy and materials. Tansley recognized the difficulty of defining the boundaries of ecosystems for, in a sense, the world is an ecosystem, but he proposed that the term was more usefully applied to those much smaller systems in which net transfer of material across the boundaries is minimal.

For example, in an unexploited woodland the amount of carbon dioxide fixed by green plants may, over a period of a year, be balanced by the amount released by respiration of all the organisms in the woodland, so that net transfer in and out would then be zero but, in fact, diffusive mixing of this gas in the atmosphere means that most ecosystems share a common reservoir.

Uptake of phosphate by the plants of the woodland may be almost entirely from the supply provided by decay, so that in this case the system may be virtually self-contained. Animals may indeed move in and out of the woodland yet their population averaged over a number of years may remain more or less constant. Ecosystems are not entirely self-contained, or "closed", and never could be because all depend on an input of solar energy and the eventual dissipation of this energy as heat.

By repeatedly using the word "may" I am, in fact, drawing attention to the value of recognizing ecosystems. By analysis of their structure and by measurement of the amounts of substances in their parts and of the rates of transfer the extent to which the system is in balance can be discovered. This provides essential information for the sensible exploitation of ecosystems, allowing their structure to be stabilized and their productivity maintained or even increased. An ecosystem is still an ecosystem even when it is not in equilibrium.

Yours faithfully,
DONALD PIGOTT,
Department of Biological Sciences,
The University,
Lancaster.
March 25.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Glue-sniffing and solvent abuse

From Mr N. C. MacDonald

Sir, Mr Allan Roberts, MP (report, April 1) is following a path trodden by well meaning politicians, in this country and overseas, in believing that the use of aversive additives in solvent-based products will eliminate or control solvent abuse.

To be acceptable any additive must meet three criteria. It should not enhance in any way the health risk of the preparation to which it is added. It should not interfere with the acceptability of a preparation by those who will use the preparation for its intended purpose. Finally, any additive should not detract from service performance of the preparation, and in this case we mean the adhesive strength.

My company has investigated the possible use of aversive additives, and volatile organic chemicals with characteristic nauseating odours are most commonly thought of in this connection; allyl isothiocyanate, which occurs naturally as a component of oil of mustard, has been used in adhesives in certain parts of the United States.

All evidence indicates that substances of this type are either ineffective at safe levels of use or have only a transient aversive effect at higher or more dangerous concentrations, as well as interfering with the normal use and performance of the adhesive to which they are added. In West Germany another type of so-called aversive agent was added to a solvent-based product as a panic reaction to an outbreak of solvent abuse in West Berlin. The result was an increase in the incidence of toxicity amongst sniffers.

To suggest, as Mr Roberts does, that there is a paucity of information on the subject is to misrepresent the facts. My company's research has revealed around 300 references from many authoritative sources in this country and others.

At the same time we in the industry shall continue our search to develop alternative systems which are intrinsically safer from abuse and I would stress that this positive approach to the problem has been receiving attention in my company for several years. I should be gravely disturbed were we to tackle the symptoms of the malaise in a less than rational way, whilst ignoring the disease itself.

Yours sincerely,
N. C. MACDONALD,
Director (Technical),
Evode Limited,
Common Road,
Stafford.
April 2.

Freedom of the media

From Mr Jacob Ecclestone

Sir, You will, I hope, allow me to reply to the letter (April 3) from Mr Farmer, General Secretary of the Institute of Journalists, concerning my refusal to admit your correspondent to cover our recent annual conference.

As a matter of policy my union asks other trade unions to admit only NUJ members to cover their meetings. We do so because the NUJ is a trade union in all senses of the word; the IOJ is not affiliated to either the TUC or the International Federation of Journalists and can make no such claim. It would, therefore, be absurdly inconsistent if we were to admit a member of the IOJ to report on our annual delegate meeting.

For Mr Farmer to assert that the leadership of the NUJ would use the closed shop in journalism "to silence opposition in the media to views endorsed by the union" is ludicrous. As he knows perfectly well, my union's own journal is so independent of the NUJ leadership that it frequently makes life uncomfortable and embarrassing for us by exercising the freedom that such independence guarantees — an independence that recent events have shown is not enjoyed by many editors in Fleet Street.

That is only our domestic situation. The NUJ operates many closed shops already, including several in national newspapers, and in none of them could Mr Farmer find evidence to substantiate his allegations.

Yours, etc,
JACOB ECCLESTONE,
Deputy General Secretary,
National Union of Journalists,
Acorn House,
314-320 Gray's Inn Road, WC1.
April 5.

One nation

From Dr C. Goodson-Wickes

Sir, What better way is there to forge the One Nation that you seek (leading article, March 30), than to reintroduce a form of national service?

Cooperation between white and black citizens in such a framework would surely go far to promote new and healthier attitudes at an impressionable age.

Yours faithfully,
C. GOODSON-WICKES,
95A Jermyn Street,
St James's, SW1.

Government failings in Falklands crisis

From General Sir Robert Ford (retd)

Sir, Looked at from the outside, but with some knowledge and experience of the workings of the machinery of government over a long period, it is difficult to come to any other conclusion than that the present tragedy in the Falkland Islands is largely the result of gross crisis mismanagement.

The well-tried and established Defence and Overseas Policy Committee has been modified by successive Administrations since the war to meet changing conditions. Chaired by the Prime Minister and comprising the Foreign Secretary, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Secretary of State for Defence, the Home Secretary, and with all the Chiefs of Staff in attendance, this committee used to meet under most governments on a monthly basis with prepared papers, receiving the world intelligence picture as seen by the Joint Intelligence Committee and with ministers together having the opportunity to listen to the professional assessments and advice of the Chiefs of Staff before they made their political decisions.

As a staff officer in the Military Operations Branch of the then War Office who was seconded to the Cabinet Secretariat for the Suez operation I saw at first hand the disasters which followed when this element of the machinery of government was not strictly adhered to.

Since that day I have served four Chiefs of Defence Staff over a number of years and before my retirement was a member of the Army Board. Throughout this period the DOPC system has been steadily eroded by successive Prime Ministers and governments, with some exceptions. The result has been that the fully considered professional advice of the Chiefs of Staff, in the knowledge of the latest intelligence assessments, has not been available to ministers at the right moment and, indeed, it has seemed to me that the very status of the Chiefs of Staff has been steadily and deliberately reduced.

This was sometimes, I fear, for political and economic reasons and one also received the impression that certain senior civil servants and Foreign Office officials wished this to be so. A few months ago, when I questioned a senior civil servant on this matter, he defended the changes which had taken place on the grounds that capabilities and commitments were almost entirely devoted to Nato and since our colonial commitments and others had virtually disappeared there was no requirement now for the Prime Minister and senior ministers of the DOPC to have regular personal advice from the Chiefs of Staff.

I have a high regard for my late senior Civil Service colleagues, but they are not qualified to proffer military advice. Nor is any Secretary of State for Defence qualified to put forward military judgment to the Cabinet subcommittee without the attendance of the professional heads of the Armed Services. Of course, civil servants can properly inform ministers of the financial and budgetary implications and options but the machinery of government should always allow for the Chiefs of Staff considered views to be available to this vital committee on a regular basis.

I sincerely hope that a lesson has been learnt and that in future our foreign and defence policy will be regularly discussed in the proper forum, with each member having an opportunity to make his input before decisions are made.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT FORD,
Cavalry and Guards Club,
127 Piccadilly, W1.
April 4.

Labour and deterrence

From Mr J. R. V. Coutts

Sir, Michael Foot stated quite clearly that we are right to defend the Falkland Island citizens against the aggression of the Argentinians. Yet the whole thrust of the Government's argument for the deployment of the Trident missile system is that we should be in a position to deter a would-be aggressor.

It does not require much imagination to visualise a situation in which England, deprived of any form of nuclear deterrent, could be blackmailed and occupied by a foreign Power. This situation could only be hastened if Michael Foot's "unilateral disarmament" policies were carried out.

It would seem to be the height of hypocrisy for him and other members of the Labour Party to attack this Government's lack of readiness in terms of dealing with the Falkland Island situation, and yet propagate policies which would virtually mean 50 million British people would be left in a defenceless situation.

Yours faithfully,
J. R. V. COUTTS,
Moatfield House,
Vicarage Lane, Waresley,
Sandy, Bedfordshire.
April 5.

From Mr P. J. Freeman

Sir, The situation arising from the occupation by Argentinian forces of the Falkland Islands is rich in irony from the naval standpoint. In the first place, both HM ships Endurance and Invincible, which are playing central, if very different, roles in the dispute, are on the disposal list. Secondly, Argentina, of all countries, was hoping to purchase HMS Intrepid, one of the amphibious assault ships understood to be involved, until a recent last-minute decision by the Secretary of State for Defence to retain her in service. Finally, of the major units of the Argentinian navy, its aircraft carrier is the former HMS Venerable and its two newest and largest destroyers are sister ships of the type-42 vessels in service with the Royal Navy.

Irony notwithstanding, there is a very serious lesson to be learnt for British naval policy from this hitherto unhappy episode. This is that while the Royal Navy may still retain the capability to dispatch substantial forces to the Falkland Islands, and to maintain them at sea, this is only because the Secretary of State's cuts in the Royal Navy have not yet taken full effect.

The capability, under present plans, will be substantially eroded over the coming years. The Secretary of State's statement in the historic debate in the House of Commons on April 3, that we will continue to maintain a "substantial out-of-area capability" rings very hollow when it is recalled that this capability even now involves the use of our only two active aircraft carriers and the detachment from Nato commitments of a very large proportion of the fleet.

Surely this assault by Argentina is the clearest possible warning to the Government that its current naval policy is fraught with danger. If Mr Nott fails to heed this warning then he should be replaced by a minister who will appreciate the maritime tradition and capabilities of this country and who will reverse the lamentable run-down of the Royal Navy.

Yours faithfully,
P. J. FREEMAN,
12 Tenison Avenue,
Cambridge.
April 4.

From Mr Giles Chichester

Sir, Fifteen years ago my late father sailed around Cape Horn safe in the knowledge that the Falkland Islands would be a British haven should the need arise.

We must not fail our people of the Falklands now their peaceful land has been rudely invaded. No effort should be spared diplomatically, economically or militarily to see justice done.

As a nation we cannot afford to duck this challenge, for who knows who next will regard us as a soft touch if we do?

Yours faithfully,
GILES CHICHESTER,
Francis Chichester Ltd,
9 St James's Place, SW1.
April 5.

From Mrs Laura Laycock

Sir, "Somehow, some time, the Argentine forces must be induced or forced to leave the Falklands. We have the full authority of a Security Council resolution to support that proposition" (The Times, April 5).

For Argentine, read Turkish; for the Falklands, read Cyprus. What price diplomacy, what price guarantees, and what price the resolve of the international community, eight years after?

Yours faithfully,
L. LAYCOCK,
13A Richmond Mansions,
250 Old Brompton Road, SW5.

From Mrs Rosemary Goring

Sir, Now that the Falkland islanders are, for the time being at least, under Argentine rule they will presumably have to start learning the Argentine national anthem. This is a stirring composition, with a revolutionary flavour not unlike that of the Marseillaise, and the first four lines run more or less as follows:

O mortals, hear the sacred cry,
Liberty, liberty, liberty!
Hear the sound of breaking chains,
And see, enthroned, Equality.

One imagines that the islanders will render these lines with more than ordinary fervour.

Yours,
ROSEMARY GORING,
Little Iwood,
Rushlake Green,
Heathfield, Sussex.
April 3.

From Sir Maxwell Joseph

Sir, The Government has succeeded in turning a Gilbert and Sullivan operetta into a Wagnerian tragedy.

Yours faithfully,
MAX JOSEPH,
1 York Gate,
Regents Park, NW1.

Ulster assembly plan

From Mr Tom Arnold, MP for Hazel Grove (Conservative)

Sir, The Prime Minister has made it clear on a number of occasions that Northern Ireland will remain a part of the United Kingdom for as long as that is the wish of the majority of the people of Northern Ireland. The guarantee is firm and should not be in doubt.

There is no immediate contradiction, therefore, between the Union and the preferred wish of the main Northern Ireland political parties to move in the direction of devolution.

The fact is that Northern Ireland had its own devolved parliament for fifty years and all the main local parties wish to see devolved government restored, albeit for different reasons and despite their disagreement about the form it should take. There are well established administrative structures to support it.

In sum, geography and history make Northern Ireland very different from any other part of the United Kingdom, with its own distinct political needs and two communities with different aspirations and perceptions of national identity.

Indeed, integration would offend one section of the local population without fully satisfying the other; it would for that reason be more likely to inflame the security situation rather than to diminish tension. Integration would not reassure the majority population since most unionists see devolution as the best safeguard for their own particular lifestyle and culture; and it would set back constructive relationships with the Republic of Ireland and important sections of United States opinion.

Yours faithfully,
TOM ARNOLD,
House of Commons.
April 1.

Plans for church unity move

From Lord Fletcher

Sir, My friend the Bishop of Norwich (April 3) does less than justice to the final report of the Anglican-Roman Catholic Commission. His purported quotation from page 84 of the report is misleading as it stands. The words in brackets do not appear in the report. The Bishop informs me that they were intended to be printed as an interpolation of his own.

It would be unfortunate if progress towards reunion were felt to depend on the precise significance to be given in a united Christendom to the primacy of the Bishop of Rome. Any form of organic unity may be a distant project, but the report registers the impressive progress made on a wide range of issues hitherto considered controversial. It emphasizes, on page 5, the bonds that unite our two churches:

> We confess the same faith in the one true God; we have received the same spirit; we have been baptized with the same baptism; and we preach the same Christ.

Experience testifies to the increasing tolerance and understanding among the laity in both churches, coupled with a real desire for reconciliation. In recent years an increasing number of Anglicans visiting the Continent attend a Catholic Mass as communicants and are not discouraged from doing so. Even in England Anglicans are welcomed as communicants at a nuptial Mass or a requiem Mass.

Conversely, though less frequently, Catholics from Europe attend Anglican cathedrals and churches as communicants. The decision for any individual is a matter of conscience. This practice develops a recognition of how much our two churches have in common.

One hopes that, with the forthcoming papal visit, the momentum already established will not be lost. An initiative for a tangible step forward might well be a study of the case for a mutual reconciliation of ministries.

Yours faithfully,
FLETCHER,
House of Lords.
April 5.

Channel link

From the Director General, General Council of British Shipping

Sir, If the Government stick to their announced policy and insist that the UK half of any Channel tunnel or bridge is financed by private enterprise the shipping industry can have no possible objection. We do not fear commercial competition. What we do fear is a tunnel or bridge started on a "private enterprise" basis; then when the project gets into difficulty and costs and timescale escalate, as by all precedent they will, the Government of the day, whatever that may be, feeling impelled to subsidise the project or support a British Rail guarantee of throughput (which comes to the same thing as subsidy), particularly if the French are determined to press on.

When the ferries and hovercraft can carry all increases in traffic, passengers and freight foreseeable up to 1990 and, with comparatively modest injections of capital (as compared with the vast sums even now envisaged for a fixed link) up to 2010, it seems madness to contemplate shelling out on an unnecessary and chancy venture when this country needs so many oher things.

The ferries have never been completely stopped on any day since World War II, whereas a tunnel or a bridge could be blocked by weather or engineering mishap or industrial action or sabotage. Better not start. Remember Concorde.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK SHOVELTON,
General Council of British Shipping,
30-32 St Mary Axe, EC3.
April 2.

Earlier bird

From the Reverend Canon E. F. Hudson

Sir, Reviewing Steven Runciman's *Sicilian Vespers* in today's Times (April 1) Philip Howard writes: "Cambridge today publish the first paperback edition of Steven Runciman's famous book". But a paperback copy has been in my study for more than 20 years. Published as a Pelican by Penguin Books in 1960, it then cost 6s! It is worth its present price, £8.95.

I can't think that Mr Howard, of all people, has been influenced by today's date.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
E. F. HUDSON,
The Rectory,
Ingatestone,
Essex.
April 1.

A goodly usage

From Mr Bernard Cox

Sir, Mrs Tullo (April 3) complains of the newsprint coming off on her hands. For many years I used old copies of *The Times* for pressing my trousers (no damping was required). However, I had to stop this habit of a lifetime when my wife showed that the ink was transferring from paper to iron and then on to my white shirts.

Perhaps one has to use properly matured copies for this purpose. Any evidence on the proper length of maturity would be welcome.

Yours faithfully,
BERNARD COX,
89 Kingsfield Avenue,
North Harrow,
Middlesex.
April 3.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE

April 6: The Queen, Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Tank Regiment, received Major-General R. L. C. Dixon upon his appointment as Representative Colonel Commandant of the Regiment.

The Lord Carrington (Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) and the Right Hon Humphrey Atkins, MP (Lord Privy Seal) had audiences of The Queen this afternoon and took leave upon delivering up their respective Seals of Office and relinquishing their appointments.

His Excellency the Czechoslovakian Ambassador and Madame Cernikova, His Excellency the High Commissioner for Australia and Lady Garland, Sir George and Lady Burton, Sir Kenneth and Lady Corfield, Mr Alex Gordon, Mr and Mrs Yehudi Menuhin and the Reverend Dr John and Mrs Newton have arrived at Windsor Castle.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Colonel-in-Chief of The Queen's Own Highlanders, this morning at Windsor Castle received Lieutenant-Colonel J. J. G. Mackenzie upon his relinquishing command of the 1st Battalion and Lieutenant-Colonel N. J. Ridley upon his assuming command.

The Hon Mary Morrison has succeeded Lady Abel Smith as Lady in Waiting to The Queen.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

April 6: The Prince of Wales this morning visited the Royal Mint at Llantrisant, Mid-Glamorgan.

This afternoon His Royal Highness opened the Glamorgan Nature Centre at Tondu.

The Prince of Wales, attended by the Hon Edward Adeane, travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

CLARENCE HOUSE

April 6: Mrs Patrick Campbell-Preston has succeeded the Hon Mrs John Mulholland as Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

KENSINGTON PALACE

April 6: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon this afternoon launched the World-Wide Shipping Group's bulk carrier United Drive at the Yard of Austin and Pickersgill, Sunderland.

Her Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by The Hon Mrs Whitehead and Major The Lord Napier and Ettrick.

KENSINGTON PALACE

April 6: The Duke of Gloucester, President, The National Association of Boys' Clubs, visited Clubs in Tameside, Manchester this morning. In the afternoon His Royal Highness as Grand Prior, opened the new headquarters of The Order of St John for the County of Greater Manchester, in Fallowfield.

Lieutenant-Colonel Simon Bland was in attendance.

The Duchess of Glouceser was present this evening at a Gala Performance of *Annie* at the Hippodrome Theatre, Birmingham, to mark the end of the Church of England Children's Society Centenary Year.

Her Royal Highness travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.

Princess Anne, Chancellor of London University, will visit the King's Road Campus of Chelsea College on April 19.

The Prince of Wales will attend a lecture by Professor M. W. Thring, "Engineering for Humanity" at The Institution of Mechanical Engineers, 1 Birdcage Walk, SW1 on April 29.

The Duke of Edinburgh, President of the City and Guilds of London Institute, will present the 1982 Prince Philip Medal to Mr L. J. Holliday at Buckingham Palace on May 21.

The Duke of Kent, as Colonel-in-Chief, will present new colours to the 1st Battalion The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment at Roman Barracks, Colchester, on May 22.

Sir Michael Palliser, Permanent Under-Secretary of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, represented HM Diplomatic Service at the memorial service held for Lord Butler of Saffron Walden, CH, on Monday.

A memorial service for Sir Rudolph Peters will be held at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, at 2 pm on April 24.

Forthcoming marriages

Dr M. J. Bradford and Miss H. E. Collins

The engagement is announced between Michael, elder son of Mr and Mrs J. A. Bradford, of Crosby, Merseyside, and Heather, only daughter of Mr and Mrs D. P. Collins, of Basingstoke, Hampshire.

Mr M. R. Carr and Miss S. N. Hazell

The engagement is announced between Martyn, son of Mr and Mrs D. R. Carr, of Fakenham, Norfolk, and Sharon, daughter of Mrs J. M. Hazell, of Bedford.

Mr T. S. M. Matthews and Miss C. L. Hudson

The engagement is announced between Timothy Simon Maples, younger son of the Rev John and Mrs Matthews, of The Vicarage, Great Dunmow, Essex, and Cathryn Loveday, daughter of Mr and Mrs Philip Hudson, of Dolphins, Kingston Gorse, Sussex.

Captain P. A. Simpson, RAOC, and Miss C. M. P. M. Vaughan

The engagement is announced between Paul, younger son of Mr and Mrs R. W. Simpson, of Beckenham, Kent, and Consuelo, daughter of Mr and Mrs A. D. Vaughan, of Northcote Farm, Shamley Green, Surrey.

Mr M. J. Strickland and Miss S. A. Chant

The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr George Strickland, of Epsom Downs, and Mrs Brenda Burfield, of Stratford-on-Avon, and Stephanie, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Ernest Chant, of Walton-on-Thames.

Mr T. J. Turnbull and Miss E. C. Flint

The engagement is announced between Timothy John, only son of Mr and Mrs J. E. Turnbull, of Woodford Green, Essex, and Elizabeth Clare, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs M. F. Flint, of Wareham, Dorset.

Mr R. I. C. Turner and Miss C. A. Salter

The engagement is announced between Iain, son of Mr K. F. Turner, of The Pightles, Edgefield, Melton Constable, Norfolk, and of the late Mrs Corrie Turner, and Caroline, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs John Salter, of North Sutton House, Stanton Lacy, Ludlow.

Marriages

Mr R. H. Macrae and Miss H. L. Turner

The marriage took place on Saturday, April 3, in Monrovia, Liberia, between Mr Roderick Harris Macrae and Miss Harriet Louise Turner.

Mr J. N. Miller and Miss S. V. Sharp

The marriage took place on April 3 at Holy Trinity Church, Chelsea, between Mr John Nicholas Miller, elder son of Major and Mrs P. N. Miller, of Eastfield Cottage, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol, and Miss Susan Victoria Sharp, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs J. H. Sharp, of Little Grange, Burnham, Buckinghamshire.

Mr P. J. Tellwright and Miss C. L. Turner

The marriage took place on April 3 in the chapel of Queen's College, Oxford, between Mr Philip John Tellwright, son of Mr and Mrs K. D. Tellwright, and Miss Carole Lynn Turner, daughter of Mr and Mrs C. Turner, both of Newcastle, Staffordshire. Mr C. S. Thompson was best man.

A reception was held at the Bear Hotel, Woodstock, Oxfordshire.

Youth Hostels Association (England and Wales)

The following have been elected honorary officers of the Youth Hostels Association (England and Wales):

Vice-presidents: Dr David Bellamy and Mr John Parfitt; national chairman: Mr Hedley Alcock; vice-chairman: Mr Frank Martin; treasurer: Mr John Patten; assistant treasurer: Mr Roger Davenport.

Royal Caledonian Ball

The Royal Caledonian Ball will be held at Grosvenor House, Park Lane, London, W1, on Monday, 26 April. Tickets, priced at £18.00 each (including light refreshments served at midnight), are now on sale. Enquiries should be made to the ball secretary (Telephone No: 01-222 2348 or 025-675543.

Tory Reform Group

The following have been elected officers of the Tory Reform Group:

Chairman: Mr Stephen Moon; vice-chairmen: Mr Roger Martin and Mr Ian Picton; treasurer: Mr John Archard Jones; national secretary: Miss Annabel Linney.

Chartered Institute of Transport

Mr Raymond Buckton delivered a lecture, "Transport — the forgotten social service", to the Chartered Institute of Transport at the Royal Commonwealth Society on Monday evening. Mr J. G. Davis, president, presided.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev M K Bate, Vicar of Wrenthorpe, diocese of Wakefield, to be Vicar of Upper Gornal, diocese of Lichfield.

The Rev R G Bollard, Team Rector of [illegible], diocese of Birmingham, to be Vicar of [illegible]

[illegible]

The Rev M Keen, churches youth and community officer for Telford, diocese of Lichfield, to be unemployment officer for the diocese of Sheffield.

The Rev S L Leach, Team Rector of Barnstaple: St Peter, St Mary Magdalene, Holy Trinity, Goodleigh [illegible]

[illegible]

Retirements

[illegible]

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:

Sir Peter Moon to be British High Commissioner to Singapore in succession to Mr J D Hennings, who will be retiring from the Diplomatic Service.

Mr George Stansfield to be British High Commissioner to Solomon Islands in succession to Mr G J A Slater, who will be retiring from the Diplomatic Service.

Mr Geoffrey Sealey to be director of motorway service areas and restaurants for Rank Leisure, a division of The Rank Organization.

Mr Des Thompson, of Belfast, to be president of the British Small Animal Veterinary Association.

Mr Charles Vance to be chairman of the Standing Advisory Committee on Local Authority and the Theatre.

Professor Ian McColl, professor of surgery at Guy's Hospital Medical School, to be honorary consultant for surgery to the Army.



Dr Francis Jackson, organist and Master of the Music at York Minster since 1946, who will be retiring in October at the age of 65. His service to music at the Minster spans more than 50 years, having joined as a chorister in 1929.

Australia's day in the auction room

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Australian book dealers have flooded into London for Sotheby's two-day sale of Australiana which began yesterday. Prices ran significantly beyond Sotheby's estimates as a result.

Early visitors' accounts of the "colony" and accounts of early voyages were among the main money-spinners. *An Account of the Discoveries made in the South Pacific Ocean Previous to 1764* by one Alexander Dalrymple, printed in London in 1767, but in so few copies that it is now a rarity, sold for £4,180 (estimate £1,500 to £2,000) to Maggs.

Quaritch paid £3,430 (estimate £1,000 to £1,500) for David Collins's *An Account of the English Colony in New South Wales*, published between 1798 and 1802, a high price for a relatively common book.

There were a number of illogicalities among prices. There were two copies of Thomas Gilbert's *Voyage from New South Wales to Canton ... 1788*, one at £1,200 and one at £3,080; both had been estimated at £400 to £600 by Sotheby's.

The more expensive copy was in better condition, but the other came from the renowned Phillipps collection. It is the account of a notable voyage whose purpose was to land convicts at Botany Bay and to bring back tea from China. They discovered many islands on the way, among them the Gilbert and Marshall Islands, named after the author and Captain Marshall from a sister ship.

The most expensive work in the sale was Gould's *Birds of Australia*, eight superb volumes of colour plates published in 1848-1869, at £39,200, 20,000 less than the high once achieved for this work last year. It was bought by W. E. Hammond, the Hampshire dealer.

At Christie's all but the finest quality pieces received a decidely cold hello in a sale of fine Japanese works of art. Of 219 lots, 86 were left unsold, amounting to 31 per cent of the sale total.

Nevertheless Japanese dealers had come over to secure the fine Kakiemon porcelains and the small offering of good swords[illegible] pair of Kakiemon deep bowls[illegible] the late seventeenth century s[illegible] for £7,560 (estimate £4,000 [illegible] £5,000) to Imura, and a sev[illegible]teenth century sword blade [illegible] Kanefusa in a rich nineteen[illegible] century sheath brought £3,[illegible] (estimate £3,000 to £4,500).

The *cloisonné* of around [illegible] had, in contrast, attracted [illegible] group of dealers from the Uni[illegible] States where a new elite mar[illegible] appears to be deveoping conc[illegible]trating only on signed pieces[illegible] slender vase and cover 23 [illegible] high decorated with rich [illegible] soms on a black ground [illegible] signed "Kyoto Namikawa" [illegible] to Temples Antiques Ltd at £5[illegible] (estimate £6,000 - £8,000). It [illegible] small dent on the rim, wi[illegible] which Christie's said it m[illegible] have expected a price around [illegible] £13,200 paid for a Namikawa [illegible] last December. The curiosit[illegible] this new market is that [illegible] unsigned piece of similar de[illegible]ation would only be worth a few hundreds. Most *cloisonné* is unsigned.

Luncheons

Imperial Society of Knights Bachelor

Sir William Harris was host at a luncheon held yesterday by the Imperial Society of Knights Bachelor at the Carlton Club preceded by a council meeting at which those present were:

Sir Gilbert Inglefield (deputy knight principal), Dr Gerald Ellison (prelate), Sir Arthur Driver (registrar), Sir John Heward (treasurer), Lord Fraser of Kilmorack, Sir Rex Niven, Sir Amar Maini, Sir Alexander Durie, Sir John Tilney, Sir Eric Cheadle, Sir Anthony Lewis and Lt Col. A. Colin Cole (Garter King of Arms).

Security Research

Mr Andrew Bowden, MP, was host at a luncheon given yesterday at the House of Commons by Security Research. Those present included members of the Diplomatic Corps, Air Vice-Marshal B. G. Lock, Colonel N. J. Flowers and Wing Commander T. N. King, RAF, Head of Foreign Liaison Section, Ministry of Defence.

Middle East Association

Mr Peter Rees, QC, Minister of State for Trade, was the principal guest at the annual luncheon of the Middle East Association held yesterday at the Hilton hotel. Mr M. H. Ewbank, chairman, and Lord Denman, a vice-president, also spoke. Those present included members of the Diplomatic Corps.

Law Society

The Lord Mayor, accompanied by Sheriff Anthony Eskenzi, was the guest of the President of the Law Society, Mr Denis Marshall, at a luncheon held at 60 Carey Street yesterday. The other guests were:

Sir Thomas Hetherington, Colonel J R L Howard, Mr Michael Megueson, Mr Robert Gray, Mr D L Stebbings, Mr C R Hewetson, Mr M H Sheldon and Mr J E Bowron (secretary-general).

Imperial War Museum

The chairman of the trustees of the Imperial War Museum, Marshal of the Royal Air Force Sir John Grandy, gave a luncheon on board HMS Belfast yesterday on the occasion of the opening of the HMS Edinburgh Exhibition by Vice-Admiral Sir George Raper. Among the guests were:

Vice-Admiral Sir Ian McGeoch, Sir Harold Wilson, MP, Rear Admiral M. C. Morgan-Giles, Commander William Faulkner, Vice-Admiral Sir FitzRoy Talbot, Mr Frank Giles, Mr Peter Green, Dame Naomi James, Mr Keith Jessop, Vice-Admiral Sir David Loram, Mr John Luckett and Vice-Admiral J. S. C. Salter.

Reception

English-Speaking Union Music Council

The English-Speaking Union Music Council gave a reception at the Martini Terrace yesterday. Mrs Edward Norman-Butler, chairman of the council, received the guests who included:

The High Commissioner for Australia and Mrs Garland, the High Commissioner for New Zealand and Mrs Gandar, Lady Dean, Mr Philip Arnold, Mr David Peacock, Lady Barbirolli, Mr and Mrs Joseph Cooper, Miss Joan Dixon, Ruth Lady Fermoy, Mr Edward Greenfield, Mr Manoug Parikian, Dame Eva Turner and Miss Eleanor Warren.

Dinners

British Institute of Management

The Lord Mayor, Sir Christopher Leaver, and the Lady Mayoress were guests of honour at the annual dinner of the City of London branch of the British Institute of Management held last night at the Mansion House. Mr J S B Quinn, Chairman of the branch, presided.

A. P. Bank Limited

The Chairman of A. P. Bank Limited and Marchioness Townshend, with the directors of the bank and their ladies, were hosts at the sixty second annual dinner of the bank held at the Savoy Hotel yesterday. The guests were:

Sir David and Lady Barran, Mr and Mrs G Blundon, Mr and Mrs J Campbell, Sir James and Lady Clemenson, Mr and Mrs R Leigh-Pemberton, Mr and Mrs R C B Lloyd, Sir Richard and Lady Pease, Mr and Mrs W. E. Taynbee, Mrs S A Walker and Mr and Mrs E Y Whittle.

Birthdays today



Sir Geoffrey de Fre[illegible], the former MP, who [illegible]

Lord Ashburton, 84; Sir [illegible] Blundell, 75; Sir Hu[illegible] Browne, 71; Professor [illegible] Denman, 71; Sir Frank Di[illegible] 90; Sir Harold Emmerson, [illegible] Mr David Frost, 43; Mr F. L. [illegible], 62; Lord Glendevon, 70; Vice-Admiral Sir Arthur Hez[illegible], 68; Mr Justice Lincoln, 6[illegible]; the Marquess of Linlithgow, [illegible]; the Earl of Lytton, 82; Sir [illegible] MacLaren, 84; Sir Ivo Ma[illegible], 82; Mr Ian Richardson, 48; Lord Ross of Marnock, 71; Sir [illegible] Holmes Sellors, 80; Sir Geoffrey Wilson, 72.

Struggle for chess lead at Hastings

From Harry Golombek, Chess Correspondent, Hastings

After two rounds played [illegible] the Blind World Chess Championship in Hastings, three [illegible] players, Baretic and Jukanovic from Yugoslavia, and Zier [illegible] West Germany are in the lead [illegible] two points each. They are followed by the two Russians, the world champion, Krylov and [illegible] former world champion, Rudenskiy, and six other players with [illegible] points each.

Baretic's win over the Austrian, Tiefenbacher, was a clear-cut and impressive affair [illegible] his compatriot, Jukanovic, [illegible] extremely lucky to win against the Norwegian, Fesche.

The two Russians [illegible] well, especially the present Blind World champion, Krylov, who appears to be in excellent form again.

Results in round two:

[illegible]

Queen Beatrix to visit Britain

Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands and her husband, Prince Claus, will pay a state visit to Britain in November, it was announced in The Hague yesterday.

The visit will start on November 16.

Latest wills

Strong, Major-General Sir Kenneth William Dobson, of Eastbourne, East Sussex, the first director-general of Ministry of Defence £358,398

Blanco White, Mrs Amber, of Hampstead, London £175,672

Wood, Mrs Gwendolen Elaine Dykes, of [illegible], Buckinghamshire .... £222,[illegible]



Jan Leeming with her award yesterday.

Repeat success for newscaster

Jan Leeming yesterday won the Television and Radio Industries Club award as newscaster of the year for the second year in succession.

Benny Hill was voted the independent broadcasting television personality of the year and Ronnie Barker the BBC Television personality of the year.

Other awards were: Independent broadcasting programme of the year: *Brideshead Revisited*; BBC Television programme of the year: *Last of the Summer Wine*; situation comedy: *Yes Minister*; theme music: *Brideshead Revisited*; radio personality: Terry Wogan; radio programme: *Melodies for You* (David Jacobs); science-based programme: *Tomorrow's World*; sports presenter: Frank Bough.

Moreover . . . Miles Kington

(A further dispatch from on board Photocopier III, our entry in last year's Observer Transatlantic Race.)

One of the last things you expect to see in the southern Atlantic is a British submarine, so I and my crew, "Evoe" Knox-Johnston, were taken aback when a huge sub emerged in front of us this morning. We knew it was British because of the Union Jack painted on the conning tower and "Come On You Spurs!" scrawled on the side.

"I wonder if you could tell us the way to the Falkland Isles?" said the very polite officer who eventually appeared.

"Straight on," I said.

"Immer gerade aus," said Evoe.

The officer looked very curiously at Evoe. I thought it would take too long to explain that he has been learning German from the BBC World Service, and insisted on speaking nothing else before lunch; anyway, there were more important matters.

"Do you think you could pop over and have a look at our radio?" I said.

"Delighted, old boy".

The trouble with the radio is that ever since we left Ireland four or five months ago it has been receiving but not transmitting, which explains why *Times* readers have not heard from me, nor have been told about our decision to give America a miss and go round the world. There are very few records left to break, and one of them is to be the first boat to go round the world during a transatlantic race.

Everything is going beautifully. The weather is so good that Evoe has given up wearing clothes and goes around with only a huge pair of field-glasses round his neck. He is the only man I know with a bathing suit mark in the middle of his chest.

"What's your business in the Falklands?" I said, when the man had fixed the radio for us. He put his finger to his lips, and looked round to see if anyone was listening.

"Very hush hush", he said.

People go rather odd when they sign the Official Secrets Act, I find.

"My God, look at that!" he said suddenly. He had just noticed the Spurs graffiti on his sub.

"A bit bad form", I said.

"It certainly is", he said furiously. "I'm a QPR supporter, always have been. Heads will roll for this. Well, goodbye."

"Hasta la vista", I said. He looked at me curiously before he, and then the sub, vanished. I suppose I ought to have explained that I have been learning Spanish from the BBC World Services. Evoe and I sometimes have long chats without a single word of English appearing.

"Entonces", I said, "let's make for the Falkland Isles and do some restocking. It'll be nice to spend an hour or two on shore in absolute peace and quiet. The Falklands must be the most off-the-beaten-track place possible for an undisturbed weekend. OK, amigo?"

"Ausgezeichnet", says Evoe.

Our next report will be from the sleepy Falklands, then. Hasta luego, mis lectores amados!

OBITUARY

MR MARTIN BATTERSBY

Painter, designer and writer

Mr Martin Battersby, painter, designer and writer, died in Lewes on April 3 at the age of 68.

A polymath of the visual arts, his intense pursuit of style in all its forms gave him an authority in ancient and modern, western and oriental arts. His reticence with strangers, combined with a characteristic distinction of personal appearance, occasionally produced an impression of hauteur that concealed a basic simplicity and friendliness.

He regarded himself primarily as a painter, and his witty and accomplished trompe l'oeil murals, freer in style in his earlier than in his later years, commanded clientele in Europe and America as well as in this country; his patrons ranged from the Duff Coopers and the Countess of Kenmare to the Wisconsin National Bank. As a stage designer, his work included Olivier's first *Hamlet* (1938), for Lilian Baylis at the Old Vic, and settings for Stratford-on-Avon, Covent Garden and Glyndebourne; notable for the last was his design for Strauss' *Intermezzo*. His feeling for the niceties of historical costume was acute.

Despite his achievements in these media it is likely that he will be remembered most for his part in the renaissance of interest in the decorative arts of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. His books, including *Art Nouveau* (1969), *The Decorative Twenties* (1969) and *The Decorative Thirties* (1971), display a keen eye and a perceptive historical sense, aided by an easy and fluent style; he was able to call on his wide experience as a decorator and on his five year apprenticeship during the 1930s with Gill and Reigate. Through these books he helped to influence the taste of a whole generation, on both sides of the Atlantic.

A born collector, he was early in the field with both Art Nouveau and Art Deco; his large collection of the latter was to have been left to Brighton Museum, but cries of "elitism" from left-wing elements on Brighton Council alienated him to the extent of leaving the town; the collection was sold. He designed settings for exhibitions in the museum, including the extraordinary *Death, Heaven, and the Victorians*.

PROFESSOR NORMAN HAYCOCKS

Professor Norman Haycocks, CBE, Professor of Education at the University of Nottingham for 27 years from 1946 whose sudden death at the age of 74 has been announced, made an outstanding contribution to the development of teacher education and training.

At first it seemed that he was set for an academic career in the scholarly sense. A first class honours degree in French at Manchester (to which he had won an open scholarship) was followed by a period of further study and some teaching in Paris and Grenoble, which in due course earned the MA degree.

He was however particularly interested in the teaching of French in schools, and, after a period as an assistant master at the North Manchester School, was appointed Lecturer in Education in his own university where he stayed (apart from war service) until he accepted a Chair of Education at Nottingham in 1946.

At Nottingham he became widely respected not only as an able Head of the Education Department but as an academic who could be relied upon to play a full part in the administration of the university with wisdom and unfailing good humour. He was Deputy Vice-Chancellor from 1962-66 and Pro-Vice-Chancellor from 1969 until he retired in 1973. As a mark of its debt to him the university conferred the honourary degree of LLD upon him in 1974 — an honour which gave him enormous pleasure.

Meantime, he had also immersed himself in national discussions and decisions about teacher training. With colleagues from other universities he helped to establish what later became the University Council for the Education of Teachers, and through it engaged in regular discussions with the Ministry of Education and later the Department of Education and Science about teacher training. He was chairman of UCET from 1969-73 and on his retirement from Nottingham became its academic secretary.

He was a good friend to the Colleges of Education and did what he could to support them through the upheavals to which they were subjected from 1973 onwards when their links with the universities were weakened or broken. For five years from 1976 he was Visiting Professor of Education at the University of East Anglia where he had a major part in preparing both the university and Keswick College of Education for their merger which has now taken place. In appreciation of these efforts the university was to have conferred upon him an honorary degree in July.

Haycocks also managed to find time to interest himself in activities beyond his academic and professional concerns. He was chairman of the Standing Conference of National Voluntary Youth Organisations for 18 years. For his services in this area he was created CBE in 1969. He was also a member of the Schools Broadcasting Council from 1958-68.

Among his colleagues he made many friends who were drawn to him by his modesty, his unfailing cheerfulness and his consideration for others. While accepting offices with zest and honours with genuine pleasure he remained unspoiled by them.

MR J. I. LINTON

Mr S. J. Goldsmith writes:

The death has occurred in London of Joseph Isaac Linton, a veteran Zionist politician and Israeli diplomat. He was 82.

London-born, a graduate of London University, he was Dr Weizmann's private, and later on political, secretary for some 25 years, and in this capacity he was deeply involved in all the dealings with the Colonial Office since the early twenties.

On the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, he was the first Israeli representative in this country, before the UK recognized the new state *de facto* and *de jure*. Afterwards, he served as Israeli ambassador to Switzerland, Australia and Japan. On his retirement, he lived in London for most of the year, a not unusual phenomenon with native Londoners.

MR D. N. BOOKER

Mr David Noel Booker, GC, who died on April 1, was with his brother Samuel, awarded the Edward Medal for gallantry in 1938 for their bravery when firedamp affected Littleton Colliery, Staffordshire in May, 1937. There was some loss of life but the actions of the brothers enabled some early rescuers who had been overcome to be brought to safety. Their Edward Medals were exchanged for George Crosses in 1971.

Mr John "Jack" Williamson, managing editor of the Press Association for three years until his retirement on health grounds in 1968, died on April 4. He was 66. He began his career in journalism on the *Manchester Evening News*, joining PA in 1938.

Mr Gerard Hamilton McConnell, CB, who died on April 2 at the age of 69, was Assistant Under-Secretary of State, Home Office, 1957-[illegible].

University news

Oxford

Election:
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE: Honorary fellowship: Lord Rayne.

London

The first award of the George Grote prize, in ancient history, has been made to Mr R. Osborne, of Kings College, Cambridge.

Newcastle

Appointments
Dr A. Walton to be a visiting professor in the department of electrical and electronic engineering for 1981-82.
Sir Kenneth Blaxter, FRS to be a visiting professor in the department of agricultural biochemistry and nutrition for 1982-83.
LECTURERS: Dr M. R. Cross (occupational health and hygiene); Dr P G [illegible]

Grant:
Department of Industry: £229,300 to Professor Dr W [illegible], for operational evaluation of emulsified fuel applied to diesel engines.

Birmingham

Appointments
READERSHIPS: Dr G. R. Isaak (physics) and Dr [illegible] (physiology).

Queen's, Belfast

Grants
Social Science Research Council: [illegible] to Dr E P Cunnigh, Dr A Mullins and Professor J [illegible] for research on a scheme for the development of careers education and enhancement of liaison between schools and industry and commerce.

Bristol

Honorary degrees will be conferred on the following at a ceremony in July:
DLitt: Mr Anthony Powell, author; Dr A. J. P. Kenny, Master of Balliol College, Oxford.
DSc: Viscount Caldecote; Lord Flowers, Rector of Imperial College, London.
MA: Mr R. W. Wall, leader of the Conservative group, Bristol District Council.
LLD: Sir Hugh Springer, former secretary-general, Association of Commonwealth Universities.

Warwick

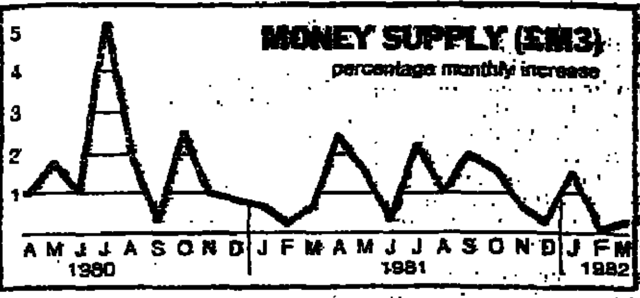
Honorary degrees will be conferred on the following at Coventry Cathedral on July 16:
DLitt: Mr D. J. Enright, writer and critic; Professor D. J. Matthews, concert pianist; Professor J A Mirrlees, Edgeworth Professor of Economics, Oxford, and Mr Trevor R Nunn, chief executive and joint artistic director, Royal Shakespeare Company.
DSc: Professor Sir David Chilton Phillips, FRS, professor of molecular biophysics and fellow of Corpus Christi College, Oxford.

Heriot-Watt

Appointments
[illegible] Dr J F B Wilson, [illegible]

BUSINESS NEWS

Slight rise in M3



Sterling M3, the broad definition of banking money, rose by an estimated 0.25 per cent in the four weeks to March 17, according to the Bank of England. Narrow money, M1, fell by 0.75 per cent and private sector liquidity (PSL2) rose by 0.5 per cent. Sterling M3 has grown at annualized rate of 13½ per cent since last February and 8¾ per cent over the latest six months. The public sector, helped by £1,000m of back tax, had a contractionary effect on money last month, but bank lending to the private sector probably topped £2,000m.

Business Editor, page 15

Europe gas reserve offer

The Netherlands' state-controlled gas company forcast yesterday that Western Europe would have to import nearly half its gas supplies by the year 2000 and offered its Groningen field as a reserve to give security of supply. Nederlandse Gasunie estimated that about 25 per cent of the supplies would come from the Soviet Union and that North Africa another 13 per cent. The company said the Groningen field could give Europe a safeguard against a cut-off in foreign gas. The United States is concerned over future reliance on Soviet gas.

$50m Zimbabwe aid deal

Zimbabwe and the United States are due to sign a $50m (£28.5m) aid agreement today which will enable the business sector in Zimbabwe to increase its imports from the United States. Diplomatic sources in Salisbury, said the bulk of the aid would go to the private sector on Zimbabwe ensuring higher import quotas after two successive substantial cutbacks in import allocations.

Sugar exporters EEC complaint

Despite being thwarted through the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade in their four-year challenge to the European Community's export rebate programme, the sugar exporting countries have reaffirmed their confidence in the Gatt dispute settlement system by launching a fresh complaint against the Community's subsidy system. The objectors, including Argentina, Brazil and Australia, are complaining that the system is causing them financial harm by depressing prices.

● The Council for the Securities Industry, the City's ultimate watchdog, has decided to allow companies involved in agreed takeover bids to buy as many shares as they wish in the target firm, seven days after the bid is announced. In a contested takeover, the predator cannot own more than 30 per cent of a target company until the first closing date.

Unclaimed fortune

Descendants of a Leningrad family last heard of before the 1917 Russian Revolution can claim 20,000 Australian mining company shares worth about £857,000.

The Brisbane-based MIM Holdings company has for more than 60 years sent off dividend cheques to four shareholders from a family called Zottof. But the cheques, sent to their last listed addresses in Leningrad, come back marked not known at this address and are paid to the Queensland public trustee.

Ladbroke purchase

Ladbroke's has acquired the Denmay Leisure Group, which operates 73 betting shops in the North-West, for £4.05m. Payment of part of the purchase price will be deferred. Freehold properties valued in excess of £500,000 are included in the price.

Bank steps in to smooth pound's fall

By Frances Williams

The financial markets suffered another severe bout of nerves yesterday over the economic and political ramifications of the Falklands crisis.

The pound dropped a further 1.85 cents to $1.7495 in London, its lowest closing level since September 1977. Bank of England intervention to smooth its fall was noticeably heavier than usual and market estimates put it at around $100m.

The pound's weakness hit the money markets and Government stocks. Some period rates rose by about ½ per cent, while long-dated gilts fell by a further £2 losses of up to £2¼ on Monday.

On the London stock market, £2,100m was wiped off the market value of shares and the FT index fell 6.9 to close at 553.0, making the fall over two days 18 points.

Only gold looked more cheerful. The price rose $11.75 yesterday to $349.50, a jump of $21.50 since last Friday.

The pound was the centre of attention on the world's foreign exchange markets. Strong selling pressure was reported from all areas and all types of traders. Sterling dropped in fits and starts as dealers bid prices down, then awaited reaction. The Bank of England was thought to have intervened at several points during the day, chiefly in dollars.

But the intervention, though substantial by recent standards, was well below crisis proportions.

The pound dropped sharply against other currencies as well as the dollar. It was down 6 pfennigs to DM 4.2250, while its trade-weighted index lost 0.9 to finish at 89.4, a drop of 1.6 since Friday and its lowest level since November.

In the money markets, shortterm rates were a little easier, reflecting comfortable liquidity conditions. But period rates jumped by up to ½ a point, with three-month interbank money, for instance, rising to 14 per cent from 13 7/16 per cent on Monday.

Nerves in the money markets were mirrored in the gilts market, where sustained selling brought substantial falls, despite better than expected money supply figures.

The fact that indexed gilts also lost ground, however, suggests that the markets were more concerned about the political repercussions of the crisis.

On the stock market, an early sharp fall of 17.6 was partly regained. Much of the fall was the result of jobbers marking down prices and relatively little business was done at these levels. By the end of the day, buyers were beginning to emerge.

FT30 INDEX

FTGILT INDEX

STERLING/DOLLAR

Imports freeze a body blow to British group's hopes

£165m Nigeria contract collapses

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Britain appears to have lost one of its largest Nigerian construction contracts — worth £165m — through the freeze on imports imposed by the West African government last month.

The contract, for the building and equipping of a college of technology and an institution of mining and metallurgy in the state of Kwara, was won recently in the face of strong European competition by Capital Plant International, a subsidiary of the Mitchell Cotts group.

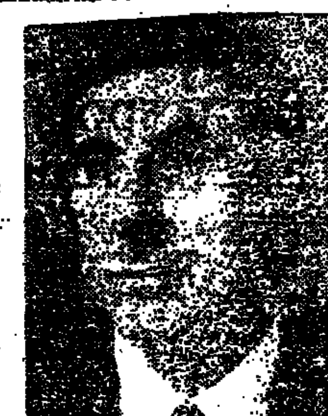
London banker Morgan Grenfell signed agreements for the loan of £165m to the Kwara government in February, of which £95m was covered by the Export Credits Guarantee Department.

Since then, however, the Federal Ministry of Finance in Lagos has withdrawn its guarantee of the funding. Mitchell Cotts said yesterday: "It appears that the project will not proceed, certainly in its present form". CPI, it said, was seeking clarification of the contractual position "on both technical and legal grounds".

Although Cotts, whose chairman is Mr Philip Dunkley, said that consultations with the Nigerian authorities were taking place, it seems that the British company has accepted that the project has been abandoned. This is despite reports from Lagos two weeks ago that the country's central bank's ban on the processing of applications for foreign exchange and new letters of credit was expected to continue for only four weeks.

Existing approvals for foreign exchange and letters of credit were expected to be honoured.

CPI is believed to have spent about £250,000 over the last two years preparing its tender for the Nigerian contract, a major factor in helping to fight competition initially from Dutch and Czechoslovakian companies.



Mr Dunkley: Still talking

Assistance was provided by another Mitchell Cotts subsidiary, Intercam Science and Educational Projects, which was preparing to purchase educational equipment for the new Nigerian colleges from about 200 United Kingdom suppliers.

It was not clear yesterday whether Nigeria is proposing that the Kwara development be cancelled or postponed but, either way, there could be a damaging impact on future United Kingdom job opportunities.

Another major contract awarded by Nigeria in which there is significant British participation is £100m of work for the water corporation of Oyo State. Costain International was awarded the larger share of the contract, worth £67m.

In addition, British engineering and construction companies are chasing more than £500m of Nigerian contracts covering hospitals, railways, power stations, housing, office and port developments.

The result of the import moratorium, according to the Confederation of British Industry, is that up to £250m of business could be lost

Hebrides jobs threatened

By Jonathan Davis, Energy Correspondent

More than 400 workers at the Lewis Offshore Construction yard at Stornaway in the Outer Hebrides are likely to lose their jobs as a result of the sharp downturn in North Sea oil development activity.

The yard, which was opened on 1975, is the largest single employer on the Isle of Lewis, and employs more than one in 20 of the Outer Hebrides' working population.

Its threatened closure is another serious blow to employment prospects in Scotland, and comes at a time when the drying up of new field development orders — blamed by the industry on high oil taxes and falling oil prices — is beginning to cause disquiet among government officials.

Lewis Offshore, a subsidiary of the Norwegian Fred Olsen group, said that it was issuing statutory 90 day redundancy notices to 404 employees, virtually the entire workforce, yesterday. The company will continue to seek orders, but if none has been secured within three months, the yard will close. It will however be kept on "care and maintenance" ready to be reopened if fresh orders are obtained.

The yard has been building wellhead modules and flare booms for Marathon Oil's Brae field production platform, but the work is almost complete and management at Lewis Offshore are not optimistic about the prospect of gettine new orders in the present climate.

Officials at the Department of Energy and the Offshore Supplies Office are believed to be becoming alarmed at the decline in offshore orders.

No new field development plans have been submitted to the department for two years now, and while six new fields are still under development, the outlook for large new projects is poor.

Highland Fabricators' yard at Nigg, Ross and Cromarty, is in the process of running down its 1,800 to 2,000 strong workforce by more than 300 as a result of the completion of BP's Magnus field platform.

In another significant development, Phillips Petroleum has told contractors who put in bids for the preliminary design work for the development of the so called "T Block" in the North Sea that the project has been postponed. It says no contracts will now be awarded for the time being while the consortium studies cheaper ways of developing the field.

☐ Fisons Fertilisers announced yesterday that 120 jobs would go at its Cliff Quay granulation plant in Ipswich. Two days ago 80 redundancies were announced at the Stanford-le-Hope works in Essex, which is being closed.

☐ Nearly 300 jobs will be lost in London and the North of England through a reorganization of the UBM Group's builders' merchants division. A smaller number of jobs will be created in Bristol.

SE inquiry over two members

By Philip Robinson

The Stock Exchange is to investigate alleged dealing irregularities and infringements of the rules by two of its members. At noon yesterday, the leading Government securities stockjobber Akroyd and Smithers suspended gilt dealer Mr John A Thompson over dealing irregularities. Four hours later, stockbrokers Buckmaster and Moore said that in connexion with that suspension they had handed a report to the exchange relating to a former employee.

This will be the second exhange investigation into the business conduct of its members in just over a year. Last March, the exchange started investigating former stockbroker Halliday, Simpson. The firm was suspended last summer. But both Akroyd and Buckmaster made it clear thast the reports they have lodged are not connected with the Halliday investigation.

Akroyd said it had suffered a negligible loss over the irregularities. The usual value of most gilt bargains is £500,000 but values of between £2m and £3m are not uncommon.

Mr Thompson, an exchange member since 1975, said: "I'm surprised I have been suspended. I can't tell you what the irregularities are. I would rather make no comment."

Mr Henry France, a senior partner, said the firm's former employee was involved with its fund management side and left of his own volation a few weeks ago. He added: "No client of Buckmaster was involved and no losses have been sustained by the firm".

Centenary joy for Bowater

By Drew Johnston

Bowater Corporation, the international paper group, marked its centenary yesterday by raising pretax profits from £85m to £106.7m for the year to December, 1981.

Most of the increase — estimated at £20m at the trading level — came from exchange gains on translation of results of the group's major pulp and paper interests in North America. Dividends have been held at last year's level — a total for the year at 16.42p gross.

Total group sales were slightly down on last year at £1,738m against £1,760. United Kingdom sales were up, however, from £572m to £651m, but United Kingdom profits fell to £19.3m from £24.8m.

North American profits rose from £80.9m to £103.3m with its sales, predominantly paper and pulp, moving to £452 from £326m.

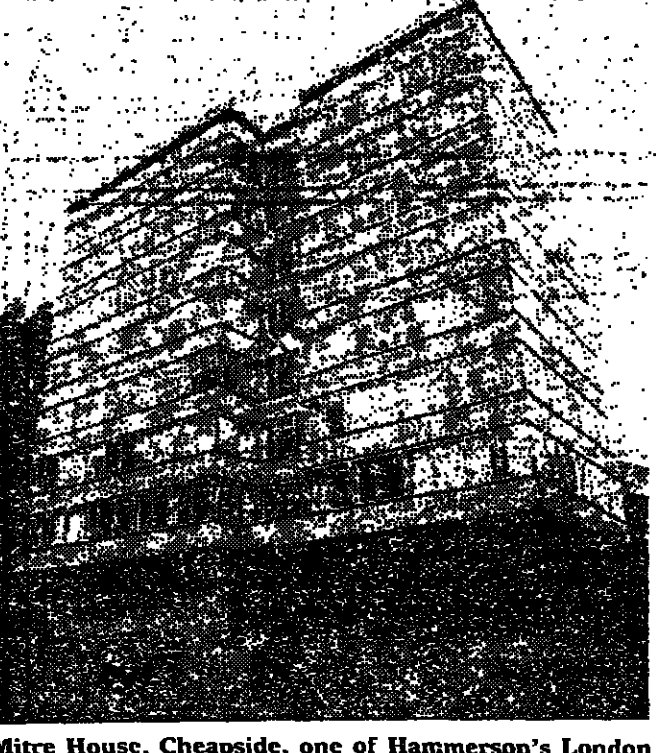
Lord Erroll, chairman, said improvements in profitability towards the end if the year by a number of group operations reflected two years of reorganization. The shares rose 1p against yesterday's market trend to close at 239p.

Business Editor, page 15

BID STOPS FEDERATED PURCHASE

A meeting of Federated Land shareholders to approve the acquistion of Estates & General was adjourned after a £19m bid for Federated by the British Steel pension fund made last Friday.

The pension fund's 175p a share cash offer superceded an earlier offer from construction and property group M P Kent valuing Federated at about £15m. A statement is expected from M P Kent today (Wed) on the surprise bid from the fund.



Mitre House, Cheapside, one of Hammerson's London properties.

Property group makes £70.5m cash call

By Baron Phillips

Hammerson Property and Investment Trust is making a £70.5m cash call on shareholders through a three-for-ten rights issue. The money is being used mainly to buy out minority interests in some of the group's key properties both in the United Kingdom and Australia.

At the same time, Hammerson unveiled excellent results. Taxable profits in the year to December 31, 1981 rose from £10.9m to £15.061m on gross rental income ahead by more than a quarter from £40.47m to £50.8m.

Through a series of negotiations Hammerson has bought out the interests in the 100,000 sq ft office building Mitre House in Cheapside, London, at a cost of £12.6m. Also, it has renegotiated the lease held by present tenants bankers Schroder Wagg who are paying a £2m rent.

In North London, where the group developed the country's largest shopping centre at Brent Cross, Hammerson has extended the lease on the site to 180 years

The market reacted unsteadily to the news of the rights issue. Prices in Hammerson "A" shares which fell by 30p on Monday dipped further to 585p from 610p yesterday. It is generally estimated that Hammerson's net asset value was around 800p a share and following the issue, this will fall to about 725p.

ACC chiefs 'had use of villa in Portugal'

By Philip Robinson

Fresh allegations of the benefits available to directors of Associated Communications Corporation to be lodged with the High Court today will now include a villa in Portugal, owned by a Swiss subsidiary, with full-time maid and gardener.

The allegations form part of the amendments by the Post Office pension fund to its petition which opposes the proposed £560,000 golden handshake to Mr Jack Gill, the dismissed ACC managing director.

Other allegations include the ordering of an eight-seater Cessna jet without board approval, fees paid to directors via an American subsidiary, the procuring by Mr Jack Gill of benefits for fellow ACC director Mr Ellis Birk, and a luxury flat above ACC's West End headquarters which was refurbished by Mr Gill for his own use.

The Post Office pension fund is opposing the payoff to Mr Gill and an option to buy his house at £100,000 below market value on the grounds that it is an action unfairly prejudicial to the shareholders.

It is backed by 13 institutions and the company which is making a takeover bid for ACC, TVW Enterprises, headed by Australian financier Mr Robert Holmes à Court, also chairman and chief executive of ACC.

The institutions have already decided to accept Mr Holmes à Court's offer with all but a few of their shares to enable them to continue opposing Mr Gill's payoff.

The court action stands adjourned until May 10 when it is expected, the pension fund will ask for ACC's private papers and confidential memos relating to the case to be given to the court.

Meanwhile the ACC directors yesterday recommended shareholders to accept the offers from Mr Holmes à Court, which close next Tuesday but could be extended. His first offer at 110p for the non-voting shares and £4.40 for the ordinary shares is conditional on it being accepted by holders of 90 per cent of the shares.

Six more drilling licences granted for rural England

The Government has opened the way for oilmen to drill across a wide swathe of southern England, including some of the most picturesque parts of Dorset, Somerset and the Hampshire/Sussex border.

In a move likely to lead to more clashes with conservationists, Mr Nigel Lawson, Secretary of State for Energy, yesterday issued six new onshore oil production licences to a consortium of small British, American and Canadian companies, led by Carless Capel Leonard, of London.

Four of the licences cover nearly 1,000 square kilometres of Wiltshire, Somerset and Dorset.

MARKET SUMMARY

Recovery after early panic

LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 553.0 down 6.9.
FT Gilts 66.53 down 1.12.
FT All share 315.98 down 6.10.
Bargains 29,258.

Political uncertainty continued to cast its shadow over the stock market where panic markdowns by jobbers pushed the FT Index down 17.6 by mid-morning, but with buyers returning to the market it was just 6.9 down at the close at 553.0.

A further wave of selling in the gilt market, though not as much as the previous day, saw long dates fall a net £2 after a rally on encouraging money supply figures, with shorts showing losses of around £¾.

Once again it was companies with Argentinian connexions which were the heaviest casualties, with Unilever 18p off at 599p, and BAT shedding 13p to 400p. But Lloyds Bank ended the day unchanged at 418p.

Blue Circle shedding 12p to 444p and GEC 15p off at 802p were the leading falls among blue chips, but there were plus signs against Glaxo 4p better at 556p and GKN 1p firmer at 156p.

Bowater put on 1p to 239p after the group's 25 per cent boost in pretax profits to £107m exceeded most expectations.

Satisfaction with recent trading news helped Philcom put on 4p to 22p and BPCC harden 3p to 41p, but ahead of figures due today Aurora shed 2p to 74p and Gill & Duffus also eased 2p to 137p.

Hammerson's £70m cash call depressed the property sector, with Hammerson 20p down at 585p — a two day fall of 55p — and leaders Land Securities 8p off at 282p and Great Portland 6p easier at 174p.

Scottish Metropolitan Property shed 1p to 85p despite a 36 per cent half-time profits increase and increased dividend.

Property sales will play a part in Woolworth's road to recovery, according to Mr Geoffrey Rodgers, chairman. After a profits fall and cut in dividend 26 stores are for sale, but only at a price well in excess of book value, Mr Rodgers says. Woolworth shares were 1½p off at 46½p.

Disappointing figures clipped 8p from Christies International at 132p, while construction group Higgs and Hill were 9p off at 148p in the dull building sector, despite reporting a 73 per cent profits boost, net assets of 238p a share, and increased dividend.

William Baird slipped 5p to 211p after profits fell in line with market expectations while employment agency group Reed Executive shed 1p to 27p on news of losses, but hopes for a return to profits in the second half of this year.

In oils Carless Capel put on 5p to 171p.

Gareth David

COMMODITIES

● Afternoon copper values rallied again in sympathy with further strength in gold. Nervous shortcovering lifted three months high grade metal to the day's high of £881.

● Continued buying during the afternoon, which was generally beleived to be on buffer stock account, took standard grade tin up to £7,370 and £7,400 respectively. Dealers said the buying seemed to be mostly prompted by the continued weakness of sterling against the dollar.

● Raw sugar futures closed slightly steadier, near the day's highs, between £0.75 and £0.5 per tonne above the previous day's close in traded positions.

OTHER EXCHANGES

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 7,293.59 down 50.76
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1,200.12 up 3.85

CURRENCIES

● The pound suffered further sharp falls against all leading currencies on worries about the Falklands crisis. The dollar was generally stronger.

LONDON CLOSE
STERLING
$1.7495 down 185 points
Index 89.4 down 0.9
DM 4.2250
Fr F 10.9800
Yen 434.00
DOLLAR
Index 116.3 up 0.1
DM 2.4135 up 37 pts
GOLD
$349.50 up $11.75

TODAY

Sheikh Ahmed Yamani, Saudi Arabia's oil minister, will be chief guest at the annual dinner of the Intitution of Mining and Metallurgy in London tonight.

Board meetings. Interims: Photo-Me International, Scottish Cities Investment Trust, Walker and Homes. Finals: A. C. Cars, Associated Book Publishers, Benford Concrete Machinery, Dorada, Expanded Metal, Fothergill and Harvey, Gill and Duffus, Humleigh Group, Lead Industries, Lec Refrigeration, Albert Martin, Phoenix Assurance, Portals, Austin Reed, Ruberoid, Stewart Wrightson, Sun Alliance and London Insurance, Triplevest, Ward White.

MONEY MARKETS

● Period rates were markedly firmer as sterling continued to fall. But condition at the short end remained comfortable. The Bank bought £67m of bills on a forecast shortage of £50m.

Domestic rates:
Base rates 13%: 3 month interbank 14 1/16-13 15/16
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 15⅝-15⅜
3 month DM 9⅛-9
3 month Fr F 23½-22½

Commerce Secretary's warning on recession

Leading US groups face bankruptcy

From Bailey Morris, Washington, April 5

Several large United States corporations are in such precarious condition financially that they may not survive the present recession and the Government will not help them if they fail, according to Mr Malcolm Baldrige, the Commerce Secretary.

Mr Baldrige believes up to three big corporations could be forced into bankruptcy before the economy begins to rebound, which he said would happen some time this summer.

Though not identified by Mr Baldrige, International Harvester, Braniff International, Chrysler and Pan American World Airways were named by a top credit rating firm as some of the companies on its "speculative" list, pointing to their serious financial problems.

Mr Baldrige told reporters today the persistent problem of high interest rates had compounded the problems of the ailing companies which he refused to blame on the Reagan Administration.

Instead, Mr Baldrige insisted that United States corporations had been hit with a barrage of problems which had grown steadily over a 15-year period, creating the latest economic crisis in America.

He predicted more of the same, depressed conditions into the summer months, agreeing with recent private forecasts that unemployment would continue to rise in the months ahead, possibly to a new post-depression record of 9.4 or higher. "Unemployment always increases after the bottom has been reached" Mr Baldrige said.

But even if business conditions deteriorate more rapidly than expected, the Reagan Administration would not come forward with finacial assistance to tide failing companies over the bad period. "I don't think the administration can or should do anything in credit allocation or subsidization for failing companies," he said.

A top executive of Standard and Poor, one of Wall Street's most prestigious credit rating companies, said he thought Mr Baldrige's prediction of up to three big business failures was "overly optimistic".

Mr Tom Hyland, the company's vice-president for ratings, said his firm had given "speculative credit ratings" to a sizeable number of American companies and a handful of them could fail if there was no rapid improvement in the economy.

BUSINESS NEWS/COMPANIES AND MARKET REPORTS

Going south with the fleet... Singing in the rainwear

The market is dominated by fear

Fear and greed are the most important motivation in the stock market (Sally White writes). This week fear dominated, as the Argentine invasion forces shook the British Government. But there were also a lot of technical factors that contributed to the shares' fall.

Yesterday was the first day of the tax year. Some selling came from investors who wanted to lock in profits. The Inland Revenue now allows each individual £5,000 of capital gains, up from £3,000. There is now more scope for tax saving.

It is the beginning of a three-week account that includes a long Bank Holiday. Investors who take a trading view were selling rather than risk being locked in over period of uncertainty created by rising United States interest rates.

Then the jobbers started the account slightly long of stock as recent trading had been good and the market seemed inclined to rise because of the improving wholesale price figures. They were very quick to mark down prices yesterday to avoid adding to stock at high prices.

Gilts were due to "consolidate" according to many brokers' recommendations — that is fall after recent rises. Institutions were cautious about buying.

Lastly, private client selling started the dive as panic set in about the stability of the Government. What sort of selling comprises volumes of small parcels of shares and has in the past started major downward spirals. Given that prospect institutions sold, too, just in case the market went south with the fleet.

Baird spots a silver lining

When a company's principal activities are in textiles and engineering the going is bound to be hard (Sally White writes). William Baird, the Glasgow-based textile and industrial group, is in that position, and warned shareholders at the half-way stage that it was finding life a struggle in this stage of the economic cycle. For the final the company has announce pretax profit *down from £8.1m to £5.7m* on sales down from £152m to £151m. The final dividend is 7.5p, unchanged on increased capital, making 12.5p.

A breakdown of trading profit shows that the textile side is down from £6.1m to £4.5m and Darchem, the industrial side is down from £2.8m to £2.3m. While the share price fell slightly on its own account, as well as with the market generally, these results were expected.

Donald Parr, the company's new chairman, is cautious about prospects for this year, but market hopes are for £8½m. to £10m at least. That would leave the yield in double figures — still just below 9 per cent — heich is to be expected, given the areas in which Baird operates. The ratin g would be an undemanding 6 times.

As a company, Baird has changed its shape several times, always aiming to diversify. But its last acquisition, in December, was to buy the rainwear maker Dannimac for £8.3m — Dannimax made £3.3m pretax in the year to Mau 9, 1981.

While the Dannimac profit for the year before acquisition was said to be an exceptional one, it is a good quality business and might be able to do the same amount if there is little bit of cash around in the High Street. The other textile business — 40 per cent of output goes to Marks & Spencer — should also be able to perform better this year as comment coming from the textile industry generally is that margins should improve.

Baird's industrial interests have also been concentrated on high quality business. Its main operations are insulation and contracts were won last year to insulate the Torness nuclear power station near Edinburgh and the nuclear power station at Heysham. These contracts will show through in the figures this year.

Cash is the strong point about Baird: even when the rest of the business is fighting for better profit margins it can still make money on the 50p of cash it has per share. Investment income last year was £1.2m against £1.6m.

□ While opinion has warmed to Baird, it has cooled a little on another major company in the textile industry, Dawson. Yesterday, it was announced that Brian Haggas has resigned as deputy chairman. Since he was associated with "tight cash" management, the market view is that investors could be cautious



A Christies auction: lot to think about

Christies feels the pinch

The international art market has not proved quite as resilient as the first-half figures from the two major auction houses, Christies International and Sothebys, were suggesting. Sothebys was already starting to feel the squeeze last year but Christies, with its leaner cost structure, got by with only a one-tenth cut in profits.

The second half, however, has been much less kind to Christies with pre-tax profits in the period slumping two-fifths to £2.02m to leave the full year down by a quarter at £5.28m. With the stock market hoping to see Christies get through an admittedly very difficult year with perhaps no more than a £1.5m decline in profits, the shares eased 6p to 134p in a weak market generally.

They would probably have fared even worse, given the forecast of a drop in profits in the current half-year, but for the group's decision to maintain the dividend at 10[illegible] a share gross. The 7½ per cent yield is a couple of points better than that of Sotherbys.

Apart from the added pressures caused by Christies decision last December to trim the buyers' premium from 10 to 8 per cent, the full effect of which is reflected in the chairman's cautious assessment for the current six months, the main pressures have come on the cost front.

After a 10 per cent rise in auction sales in the first half, there was a fall in the second and for the whole year the total was a mere £10m ahead at £185m compared with the double figure growth rates of previous years.

In addition auction sales have tended to be in small lots rather than the lucrative headline-catching big sales that have boosted profits in recent years.

The pre-tax total has also been rather flattered by higher interest income from the group's very robust balance sheet and foreign exchange gains of £759,000 arising from its interests in the United States and Switzerland.

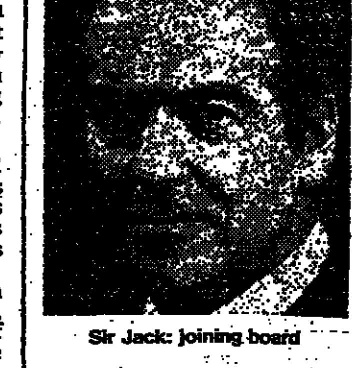
So far as the immediate future is concerned, the key to Christies standing lies in the fact that costs should not be rising as steeply as Sothebys, now that its overseas expansion is completed.

But it still remains to be seen how the two big houses survive, should the gloves really come off in the competition battle. At the moment Christies looks better placed but Sothebys has surprised the fine art market as well as the stock market in the past.

APPOINTMENTS

Insurance panel's new members

Mr R. E. Lake, general manager of British & European Reinsurance, Mr T. Roberts, general manager of UK, General Accident Fire & Life Corporation, and Mr R. Sepal, managing director of Albany Life Assurance, have been named members of the Panel of Insurance Advisers. Mrs M. Turner, assistant general secretary, Association of Scientific Technical and Managerial Staffs, and Mr M. Weinberg, deputy chairman and joint managing director of Hambro Lide Assurance, have been reappointed to the panel.



Sir Jack: joining board

Sir Jack Stewart-Clark, former managing director of Philips Electrical and Pye of Cambridge, has been appointed to the board of Low and Bonar. Sir Jack represents East Sussex in European Parliament.

Mr Carles W. Orange has been made finance director of AAH Holdings from June 1.

Mr M. Rayburn has been appointed tothe board of the Burmah-Castrol Company as personnel director. Mr M. P. Ridley has also been appointed to the board, he will be responsible for lubricants manufacturing and distribution operations.

Mr Michael Sheeran has become managing director of the Charles Clark Motor Group.

Mr C. H. Stapleton has been appointed a director of Gill & Duffus Group. He is joint managing director of Pacol, one of the company's principal subsidiaries. Mr N. J. Cosh will be joining the company on May 1 and has been appointed to the board as group finance director from that date. Mr R. G. McFall and Mr R. J. Thorne have retired and have left the board of the company.

Mr Robert L. Black has been named group chief executive of Mitchell Somers. He succeeds Mr Jack Picken who has retired.

Mr Ian Brash of the Crown Cork Co. has been elected chairman of the executive committee of the British Aerosol Manufacturers' Association. He succeeds Mr George Hodgson who has resigned as chairman of the association. Mr Michael O'Donovan of Beecham Proprietaries has been elected vice-chairman. He was previously chairman of the Association's Marketing & External Relations Committee. Mr Anthony Bracking of Johnson Wax has been appointed the new chairman of this committee.

US car sales tumble despite promotions

Detroit, April 6.—Despite another round of price promotions by the United States car makers, *sales in March* fell 22 per cent from a year earlier.

March sales fell to 771,293 vehicles from 956,262 vehicles a year earlier while deliveries of domestic cars declined 23 per cent and import sales fell 21 per cent.

The future is also bleak with analysts forecasting that April sales may fall further because rebate programmes began winding down at the end of March d the pattern has been for sales to plunge when they end.

In an effort to ease the inevitable letdown, General Motors last week began offerng interest-rate subsidies in place of its expired cash rebatesm, and Chrysler extended its discount offer until April 10. Ford is expected to follow suit.

The latest round of price promotions never really stimulated a high level of sales. In March, for example, domestic sales fell to 572,293 vehicles from 715,262 vehicles a year earlier.

GM sales for March de*clined 23 per cent to 349,506* cars; Ford, 18 per cent to 135,210; Chrysler, 25 per cent to 72,627; Volkswagen of America sales of domestically built cars, 41 per cent to 9,987; and American Motors, 50 per cent to 4,963.

A year ago, late-March sales provided a classic example of what typically happens when extensive price promotions end. Mid-March 1981 had been the final 10 days of cash rebates, and domestic sales hit a robust 10.1 million-vehicle pace. Then without the help of rebates, late-March 1981 sales plunged to a 5.1 million-vehicle rate.

It came as little surprise to industry analysts that late-March domestic sales this year rose 24 per cent to 235,292 vehicles from the year-earlier 189,248 deliveries. Late-March sales this year were equivalent to a seasonally-adjusted annual rate of about 5.8 million vehicles.

A Wall Street journal survey of leading importers showed that March import sales declined to about 199,000 vehicles from the year-earlier 241,200. Analysts said the decline, to a seasonally adjusted annual pace of about 2 *million* vehicles, reflects import restrictions on Japanese cars and a softening market for small cars.

All six leading Japanese importers announced sales declines, ranging from 9.5 per cent for Nissan US to 49 per cent for Chrysler, which imports cars made by Mitsubishi.

Besides the effects of import restrictions, Japanese importers attributed their lower sales to the weak economy. "The recession is hurting everybody", a Toyota Motor Sales US spokesman said.

At the same time, Mr Clifford G. Schmillen, vice president of American Honda, said March was a good month, even though Honda sales fell 21 per cent to 29,594 vehicles. "We sold every car we got, and our *dealers are down to a 10-day* supply of cars."

Percentage of US market (excluding imports)

	March 1982	March 1981
General Motors	61.1	61.2
Ford	23.6	22.2
Chrysler	12.7	13.0
Volkswagen	1.7	2.3
American Motors	0.9	1.3

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL US MARKET

	March 1982	March 1981
General Motors	45.3	45.8
Ford	17.5	16.6
Chrysler	9.4	9.7
American Motors	0.6	1.0
Toyata	6.2	6.3
Datsun	6.0	5.1
Volkswagen	1.3	1.7
Honda	3.8	3.7
Other imports	9.9	10.1
Total domestic	74.1	74.8
Total imported	25.9	25.2

INFOTECH

Team will study link with Japan

The government has set up a study group of academics and members of industry and government ministries to advise on the scope for collaborative research programmes needed to exploit information technology.

Headed by Mr John Alvey, senior director of technology at British Telecom, the group is expected to report to Mr Kenneth Baker, by the end of the summer.

The move follows a visit to Japan last October by a delegation led by the Department of Industry to study the prospects of collaboration with the Japanese on the development of what is termed Fifth Generation computers — those computers which would have 'super' processing capabilities and respond to the human voice.

The visit precipitated a seminar in London at the beginning of this year which was attended by delegates from the three main sectors represented on the new advisory panel. The results of the preliminary discussions with the Japanese were reported to the group which determined that a study team could help formulate the policy to be followed by British industry in developing information technology products.

The group consists of the following: Mr John Alvey, senior director of technology, British Telecom; Mr Iann Barron, managing director, Inmos; Mr Colin Haley, director, product line planning, ICL; Mr Philip Hughes, chairman, Logica Holdings; Mr Charles Read, director, Inter Bank Research Organization; Mr Derek Roberts director of research, GEC; Mr Keith Warren, director of technology and strategic planning, Plessey; Mr Brian Oakley, secretary, Science and Engineering Research Council; Dr Hywel Davies, deputy controller, research programmes, Ministry of Defence; Mr John Major, Under Secretary, electronics applications division, Department of Industry and Mr Alastair Macdonald, Under Secretary, information technology division, Department of Industry.

The group will advise on computer software programmes development, computer aided design, silcon technology as part of its brief.



Mr Kenneth Baker: expecting report by summer.

ASH & LACY

Dividend up

Ash & Lacy, the Smethwick manufacturer and distributor of perforated and expanded metal and plastic sheeting, saw pretax profits for 1981 fall by £300,000 to £2.35m. But the final dividend was raised by 2.14p gross to 11.4 gross, making a total payout for the year of 20p gross, an increase of 12 per cent.

The company says that, despite the recession, which hit manufacturing in general and metal industries in particular, trading improved during the second half. Pretax profits in 1980 were a record. This encouraged the directors sto recommend a higher dividend.

External sales fell from £27.9m to £25.2m, but net *interest* charges also declined, reflecting easier rates, by more than £200,000 to £2.35m. But a sharp rise in taxation from £297,000 to £661,000 left profits after tax well down at £1.69m compared with £2.35m. The higher tax charge was largely due to a leap in deferred provisions from a £27,000 credit to £144,000 debit.

Earnings per share consequently slipped from 56.4p to 40.5p, if the exceptional tax credit of £25,000 is excluded. But the current cost accounts show earnings per share falling from 39.3p to 24p. The same accounts show pretax profits of £1[illegible]m against £1.93m in £1980.

NCB

Sharp rebuttal

Sir Derek Ezra, chairman of the National Coal Board, has made a sharp and detailed rebuttal of criticisms by a back bench committee of MPs, who had accused the board of "dumping" coal abroad and making unrealistic forecasts of future coal demand.

The board's angry response follows an equally forceful reply from Mr Nigel Lawson, the Secretary of State for Energy, last week, and seems likely to lead to more exchanges between the coal industry and the Select Committee on Energy, which has so far failed to establish itself as an influential voice in energy matters.

In a letter to the committee, Sir Derek says the board is disturbed by the committee's apparent misunderstanding of certain aspects of the board's position in its report published last month. He calls on the committee to correct "some of the unfortunate and misleading impressions" that it has given.

In particular Sir Derek rejects the charge of "dumping", a label which the committee had attached to the board's policy of selling its surplus coal production abroad at what it admits is at best at cost price.

"The board contest the assertion that their current exports policy constitutes 'dumping' in the pejorative sense in which the committee appears to be using the word.

"It implies that they are adopting improper pricing policies to break into established world markets to the detriment of traditional suppliers who themselves are trading fairly and that this *policy carries a high cost* penalty which is being passed on to United Kingdom tax *payers and coal users*".

In fact, says Sir Derek, the coal exports are priced in line with European Comm*unity rules, which forbids* undercutting to secure business, but allow "alignment" to competition from third countries. The coal board's exports — which amounted to almost 10 million tonnes a year last year — were made at a delivered cost above comparable coals from third countries.

Far from costing the taxpayer money, the extra business has enabled the NCB to avoid the costs involved in stocking coal that would otherwise have gone unsold, and has also generated large cash income, Sir Derek says.

He claims it is the only way the board could meet its financial targets set by the Government.

COMPUTER GROUP

Staff buy in

Hundreds of employees of the computer services company Computer Management Group have raised £1m through funding Provided by the Clydesdale bank to buy about 28 per cent of the company.

A total of 372 employees, of whom 192 work in Britain, have raised the money for the purchase which now means that more than 50 per cent of the company is owned by its workforce in Britain, Holland, West Germany and Belgium. In all, 476 of the 650 employees are now shareholders.

The share sale has been due primarily to the retirement of Mr Bryan Mills, one of the company's founders. About 27.3 per cent of the sold shares were owned by Mr Mills, his family and an associatd trust. Applications were oversubscribed so co-founders Mr Doug Gorman and Mr *Bob* Fawcett *put* about 1 per cent of total shares on sale as well to satisfy demand.

JOHNSON MATTHEY

Commodity deal

Johnson Matthey Bankers, the bullion trading subsidiary of Johnson Matthey, has paid £2.7m for Wallace Brothers, a commodity broker. The purchase is the most recent of several changes of ownership among commodity companies.

Wallace Brothers consists of an American as well as a British company, both of which specialize in soft commodities such as coffee, cocoa and sugar. Johnson Matthey has bought the companies from Brooke Bond.

In January, Brooke Bond sold its insurance broking interests, 50 per cent of Gillbrooke Insurance Holdings, to its partner in the venture, Gill & Duffus, one of London's leading commodity brokers.

Apart from bullion dealing, Johnson Matthey is also a major refiner and manufacturer of precious metals, supplying components for the jewelry industry.

COMMODITIES

COPPER: higher grade copper was steady. Afternoon.—Higher grade cash, £848-849; three months £876-876.50. Sales 4,825 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes, £841-843.00; three months: £868-870; Sales: Nil tonnes. Morning.—Higher grade cash, £847.50-848; three months £875-875.50. Settlement, £848.50. Sales: 7,425 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes, £843-843.50; three months, £870.50-871.00. Settlement, £843.50. Sales: 1,400 tonnes.

TIN: Standard tin closed firmer. — Afternoon. — Standard cash, £7,140-7,150 a tonne; three months £7,365-7,370. Sales, £1,820 tonnes. High grade, cash £7,140-7,150; three months £7,390-7,400. Sales, 270 tonnes. Morning. — Standard cash £7,115-7,120; three months £7,350-7,355. Settlement, £7,120. Sales 835 tonnes. High grade, cash £7,115-7,120; three months, £7,361-7,362. Settlement, £7,120. Sales, 75 tonnes. Singapore tin ex-works, $M29.68 a picul.

LEAD closed firmer. — Afternoon. — Cash £336-337 per tonne; three months £346.50-347. Sales, 5,175 tonnes. Morning. — Cash £327.50-328; three months £338.50-339. Settlement £328. Sales, 7,450 tonnes.

ZINC was firmer. — Afternoon. — Cash £423.50-424 per tonne; three months £428-428.50; Sales, 6,325 tonnes. Morning. — Cash £415.50-416; three months £420.50-421.00. Settlement, £416.00. Sales, 2,375 tonnes.

PLATINUM was at £193.70 ($338.50) a troy ounce.

SILVER: Bullion market (fixing levels):—Spot, 420.75p per troy once (United States cents equivalent, 737.60); three months, 434.65p (76.00c); six months, 448.10p (791.50c); one year, 474.55p (84.90c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash, 428.5-429.5p; three months, 442-443p. Sales, 46 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 421-422p; three months, 434.5-435p. Settlement, 422.0p. Sales, 76 lots.

ALUMINIUM: Was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £569-570 per tonne; three months, £590.50-£591.00. Sales, 3,025 tonnes. Morning.—Cash £568-569; three months £589.50-590. Settlement, £569.00. Sales, 3,525 tonnes.

NICKEL was steady. — Afternoon. — Cash, £3,111-3115 per tonne; three months, £3,155-3160. Sales, 174 tonnes. Morning. — Cash, £3,130-3,140; three months, £3,176-3,178. [illegible]

LATEST RESULTS

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Ash & Lacy (F)	25.2(27.8)	2.34(2.64)	40.5(56.4)	8(6.5)	29/5	14(12.5)
Wm. Baird (F)	150.6(151.8)	5.68(8.1)	—(—)	7.3(7.3)	—	12.9(12.9)
A. Beckman (I)	7.09(6.56)	0.61(0.69)	4.45(3.8)	1.9(1.9)	1/6	—(5.73)
Bowater (F)	1,728(1,760)	106.7(85)	25.7(18.8)	7.2(7.2)	5/7	11.5(11.5)
H. Brammer (F)	45.03(43.63)	5.64(5.88)	12.4(13.9)	3.7(3.7)	3/6	5.7(5.5)
Christies (F)	33.9(31.0)	5.28(7.04)	15.83(15.2)	5(5)	—	7(7)
Derritron (F)	8.59(8.02	0.58a(0.56a)	2.2a(7.4a)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Good Relations (F)	2.59(2.04)	0.26(0.1)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(—)
L. Gould (F)	2.28(1:72)	0.26(0.1)	95.3(59.4)	18.8(—)	—	32(28b)
Hammerson (F)	—(—)	15.06(10.9)	18.24(11.05)	8(6.5)	14/6	11(9)
Higgs & Hill (F)	127(122)	3.64(2.1)	30.3(21.1)	4(2.8)	11/6	6.5(4.8)
Reed Exec. (F)	33.1(35.6)	1.65a(0.24)	—(3.04)	—(—)	—	0.1(1.5)
Senior Eng. (F)	68.6(70)	4.01(5.08)	3.15(4.33)	0.7(0.7)	—	1.5(1.5)
Steaua Romana (F)	—(—)	0.02a(0.08a)	1.23a(0.15a)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Scot. Met Prop. (I)	—(—)	2.77(2.03)	—(—)	1.5(1.1b)	13/8	—(2.8b)
Watts, Blake (F)	24.2(24.7)	3.65(3.84)	12.55(16.62)	2.2(2.02)	—	3.5(3.2)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News, dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. a=Loss, b=Adjusted for scrip issue.

APPOINTMENTS

Insurance panel's new members

Sir Jack: joining bo...

COMMODITIES

BUSINESS NEWS/FOCUS AND COMMENT

INTERNATIONAL



SWEDEN

Workers win a say

The Swedish employers association, the Swedish Labour Federation and white-collar unions have reached an agreement to give about 1.5 million workers in private industry a greater say in the running of their companies.

The employees will also have a voice in the adoption of new technology, organization of work plans and economic decisions.

However, the so-called co-determination committees will not have any veto over employer's right to hire and fire, as unions demanded some years ago.

JAPAN

Japanese car registrations hit an all-time monthly high in March, going up 6.5 per cent from a year before to a total of 529,950.

● Japan does not intend to reduce its self-imposed ceiling on car exports to Canada this year, Mr Shintaro Abe, the International Trade and Industry Minister, announced yesterday. He said he would recommend that exports be kept to the 1981 level.

AUSTRALIA

Employment in Australia fell in February, reversing the previous 12 months' trend, according to seasonally adjusted estimates issued by the Statistics Bureau. The bureau said civilian employment (seasonally adjusted) fell to 6,412,800 in February, down 5,000 or 0.1 per cent from January. In February last year, employment increased by 23,100 or 0.4 per cent.

Despite the fall from January, employment in the latest month remained at 76,600 or 1.2 per cent higher than a year earlier.

● Mr Nils Asling, Swedish Industry Minister, who is touring Western Australia's mining operation areas, urged Australian companies to invest in Sweden to force their way into the European market.

UNITED STATES

International coal shipments will more than double in the 1980s — from 192 million tonnes in 1980 to 425 million tonnes by 1990, according to National Economic Research Associates, an American firm of consulting economists. It predicted that coal imported by Europe will rise by 1 per cent a year above the general rate of inflation between 1985 and 1990.

WEST GERMANY

West German crude steel production totalled 3.88 million metric tons in March, up 11.3 per cent from February. Pig iron output rose 12.1 per cent to 3.82 million tonnes.

West German crude steel production rose 3.1 per cent in the first quarter of 1982 over the same year-ago period to 10.76 million tonnes, the regional bureau of the federal statistics office said in Dusseldorf.

● The West German manufacturing industry index of incoming orders fell by a provisional 1.9 per cent seasonally adjusted in February, after being unchanged in January.

FRANCE

ETPM, a subsidiary of the French Vallourec steel pipe group, has been awarded a contract worth $90m (£51m) by the Norwegian state oil company Statoil to lay a pipeline in the North Sea. It is one of the biggest orders of its type.

BELGIUM

Belgium unemployment at the end of March remained at a record high of 10.9 per cent. The only big change was a decline of 2,000 in the number of young jobless.

● The trade deficit of the Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union widened sharply in January to a provisional Bel Fr 30,800m from Bel Fr 1,800m in December, the national institute of statistics reported in Brussels. January marked a worsening of the economic union's trading position, which had improved in the end of last year after a record deficit of Bel Fr 51,600m was recorded in August.

UGANDA

Uganda will request the potential donors at a World Bank meeting in Paris on May 17 for help in its $600m (about £327m) recovery plan. "We are telling the international community 'help us now. If you do, in two years we will be on the other side of the counter'," Mr Ephraim Kumuntu, acting finance minister, said in Kampala yesterday.

Frances Williams assesses our competitiveness

The international race Britain cannot win

Last year witnessed a rare if not unique event in recent British economic history. We managed, in a small way, to improve our international competitive position by dint of our own domestic labours, instead of relying entirely as in the past on the devaluation of sterling to keep British goods in the running on world markets.

In 1981 lower pay settlements and a surge in productivity produced a rise in wage costs per unit of output of only 2½ per cent, Britain's best performance since the mid-1960s when wage costs actually fell. This compares with a rise of 25 per cent in the year to mid-1980. By contrast, the latest international comparisons show unit wage costs rising at a yearly rate of 3 per cent in Japan, 4 per cent in Germany, 11 per cent in the United States and 14 per cent in France.

The result will have been to boost British competitiveness by perhaps 2 per cent or so, in addition to the gain from a 10 per cent drop in sterling over the year, enabling us to claw back perhaps a quarter of the 50 per cent loss of competitiveness suffered during 1979 and 1980.

Government ministers are losing no opportunity to reiterate their message that continued low pay settlements and greater productivity are essential if workers are to price themselves into lobs in international markets.

Will that message be heeded? And even if it is, will Britain reap the benefits?

On wages, the signals are unimpressive if not alarming. Pay settlements in the 1981-82 wage round are averaging about 7 per cent in manufacturing, the most internationally exposed sector of the economy.

The index of competitiveness used measures the rise in labour costs per unit of output in this country compared with our competitors, expressed in a common currency.

This is just 1 to 2 per cent below settlement rates in the previous pay round, despite steadily climbing unemployment and continued depressed output.

The majority of economic forecasters beleive that the next pay round will see a higher level of settlements, perhaps of about 9-10 per cent. This would have earnings growing at 10 to 12 per cent over the year.

The forecasters point out that industrial output is expected to pick up quite sharply later this year; that unemployment is likely to stabilize or rise very slowly, reducing workers' fear of redundancy; and that company profits are predicted to increase rapidly, by anything between 20 and 30 per cent in 1982 with similar improvement in 1983.

All these factors are likely to encourage workers to press for higher pay to compensate for the drop in living standards over the past year or so.

Information collected by Incomes Data Services, a private company whidh monitors pay, reveals that a few companies, in better financial shape than last year, have agreed to somewhat higher may deals this time around.

Though companies may be disinclined to be generous on wages — the higher profits

> "Most economic forecasters believe the next pay round will see a higher level of settlements, perhaps of round 9 to 10 per cent"

will not be enough to finance stockbuilding and more investment, let alone high pay settlements — they may find it hard to resist workers claims for some modest relaxation. If economic recovery persists in subsequent years, the pressures on pay are certain to grow stronger.

The Government, not surprisingly, is taking a more optimistic line. Treasury economists, who expect that inflation will be into single figures shortly and could fall to 7½ per cent by the middle of next year, believe that workers are unlikely to get pay rises significantly above the inflation rate. (In the present round and the last, wage deals have averaged about 3 per cent below the rise in prices.)

Some small rise in earnings next year would not upset the improvement in competitiveness if it could be covered by increased productivity. But it is not at all certain that last year's impressive performance can be repeated. In 1981, output per person in manufacturing rose by more than 10 per cent and output per person-hour by over 8 per cent to surpass the peak levels reached before the recession began in the spring of 1979.

This is a bigger rise than experience of past recessions would have suggested and it began unusually in the cycle, when output was still falling. This, plus anecdotal evidence about new attitudes and working practicies on the shop floor, has produced talk of a productivity "miracle" — the suggestion that the long-run trend of productivity has shifted upwards from the sluggish 1½ per cent or so seen for much of the 1970s.

Others take the view that recent rapid productivity growth is temporary, and unlikely to be sustained. They argue that the figures have been boosted artificially by closure or mothballing of less productive capacity to give a once-and-for-all productivity boost. And they point out that in past recessions labour "shaken out" has been "shaken in" again once recovery is underway, dampening previous productivity growth.

The Treasury counters this by arguing that continuing competitive pressures, and companies' expectations "of only moderate economic recovery", will keep up the pressure to hold costs down and by implication to be cautious about recruiting labour.

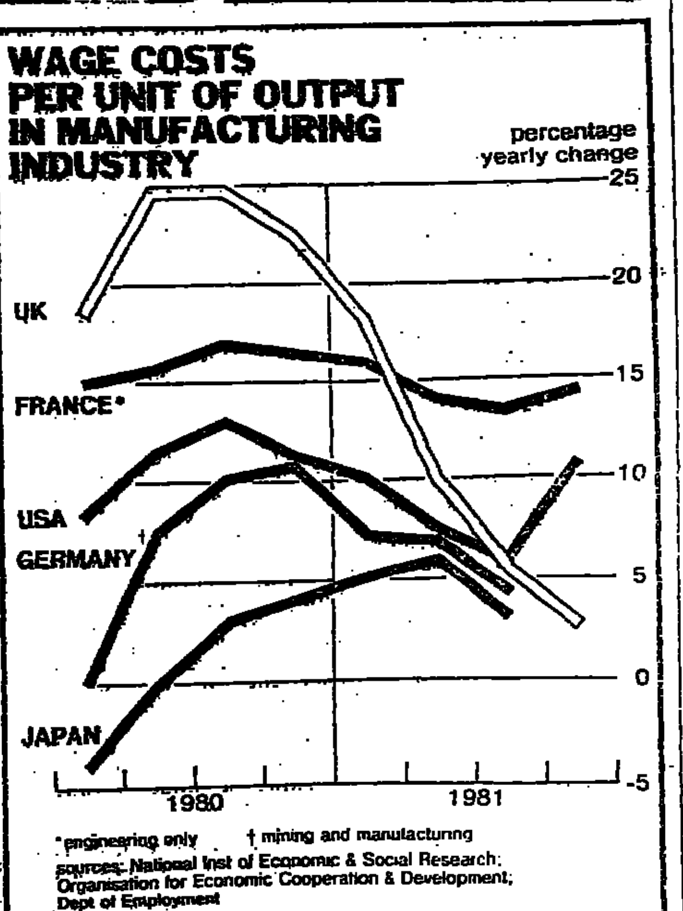
We shall not know who is right until output recovers in earnest. But no one is suggesting that last year's productivity gains can be repeated. Over the next few months, as job losses continue while output picks up, productivity is likely to go on rising, though at a lower pace. But in the longer term even believers in miracles cannot expect sustained productivity growth above European levels between 3 and 4 per cent a year.

This alone would be twice as good as Britain's performance over the past few years.

Another problem area is the scene abroad. Britain can only improve her competitive position without recourse to devaluation if her unit labour costs are rising more slowly than those of international rivals.

Last year she may have succeeded. But there are signs that in other countries too the rise in labour costs may be slowing down.

Over the past year or so recession, as in Britain, has tended to inhibit the growth of earnings. (France, which is trying to reflate its economy, is a clear exception.) But recession has also slowed the growth of productivity, reflecting the usual pattern in which productivity falls and rises with output. The reason is that output is normally cut more quickly than jobs.



HOW WE COMPARED WITH FOREIGN COMPETITORS, 1975-81

% change	UK	US	Japan	France	Germany
Unit wage costs 1975-1980	89	36	0	45	17
Latest quarter 1980-81	2.6	10.8	2.9	14.4	4.2
Output per person-hour 1975-80	7	15	42	31	16
Latest quarter 1980-81	8.3	4.4	4.3	-4.6	3.5

The increase in unit labour costs elsewhere has thus not decelerated as dramatically as in Britain. But economic recovery, which will be boosted by the recent drop in oil prices, means that productivity is beginning to improve in most countries. Even if it only gets back on trend — and it should do better than that in the early stages of recovery — this would mean productivity growth of 2½ per cent a year in the United States, 3 per cent in West Germany, 4 per cent in France and 7½ per cent in Japan.

All this serves to demonstrate how fast Britain has run to stand still in the international race for competitiveness. If our main trading partners, with their better productivity records and, on the whole, historically lower pay settlements, succeed in reducing growth in unit labour costs over the coming year Britain's modest advantage gained so painfully over recent months will quickly disappear.

There is no alternative to some futher depreciation of sterling if the Government wishes to improve significantly the competitiveness of British industry. This does not mean that containing unit labour costs is unimportant. It reduces the need for devaluation and dampens its inflationary impact.

But the Government should not pretend to British workers that the achievement of greater competitiveness lies in their hands alone. To do so could prove a recipe for disappointment and recalcitrance.

Airing grievances, dispelling rumours

AT WORK: INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACY

By Rupert Morris

Enthusiasm for worker participation — or industrial democracy, if you prefer — has been at best sporadic since the Bullock Report sank amid widespread recriminations in 1977. The Post Office's decision to scrap its worker-director scheme two years ago was a further setback.

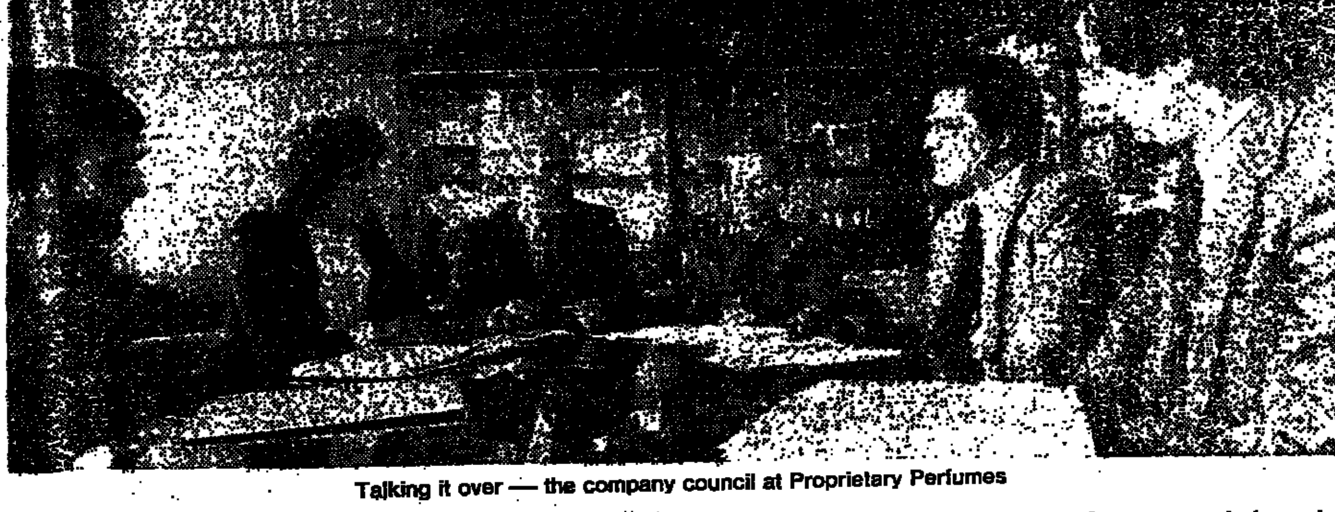
Old-fashioned managements and trade unions suspicious of schemes that smell of collaboration have combined to prevent isolated initiatives leading to any general move toward greater employee involvement.

Among the isolated successes have been profit-sharing schemes like the one operated by British Petroleum, which claims a 60 per cent response to its offer of two shares for the price of one to any employee with more than four years' service. But other large firms, such as GEC, are opposed to such schemes, arguing that it is virtually impossible to relate individual employees' performance to the company's share value and that consequently employee shareholding schemes provide no real productivity incentive.

At a more modest level however, there is a form of worker participation which has grown out of Bullock and been adopted by a sprinkling of medium-sized firms with some success. It is the company council.

Proprietary Perfumes (PPL), of Ashford, Kent, a subsidiary of Unilever, introduced such a company council in 1976. There was no pressure for trade union recognition, and industrial relations were calm. They have remained so ever since and Mr Geoffrey Roberts, PPL chairman, has been able to spread the word about company councils to his occasionally envious colleagues on the CBI Kent Committee, of which he is this year's chairman.

It is probably impossible to know how much of the good



Talking it over — the company council at Proprietary Perfumes

relations that seem to reign at PPL are attributable to the existence of the company council. But PPL is indisputably a successful and growing company — its turnover last year was £57m — which has never had any work stoppage among its 500 employees.

The council's constitution, which runs to six foolscap pages, deals at length with consultation. But it rapidly becomes clear that the prime object is communication. PPL's work force has shown little inclination to take an active part in management policy making.

Mr Roberts said: "We needed to make sure that people felt involved in what was happening, at all grades, both management and non-management. It's like a family, where you know that if you stop talking to each other you are in trouble."

The employees take it very seriously. Their representatives are elected from the varions divisions — perfumery, works, research and development, commercial and marketing — to serve on the council for two years. The level of voting is high, with 85 per cent taking part. Candidates and their supporters make posters and rosettes which clutter the factory at election times.

The eight-strong council meets every five months, with monthly meetings of divisional committees (also elected), being held. The council, in accordance with the constitution, can discuss budgets, balance sheets, investment trends, sales, marketing and manpower.

In spite of all the democratic paraphernalia, however, it is an essentially paternalistc system. Mr Roberts did not like that particular word but admitted that the degree of consultation depended entirely on how much he, as chairman of the company and of the council, was prepared to divulge.

Conversations with Mr Roberts and three other members of the council did not reveal many major developments which had been inspired by the council, apart from the establishment of a dental centre on site. Canteen facilities, car parks, rest rooms and other practical matters were among the most common items for discussion.

Major policy decisions are often presented to the council as faits accomplis. "But at least we'll know why," said Andrew Attfield, the company accountant and a council member.

"I think the chairman would be a fool to tell us the whole truth all the time," said John Church, council member for the compounding division.

Mr Church said the council's existence did not stop the management taking occasional wrong decisions which could, with consultation, have been avoided. The installation of a particular machine in his department had been a case in point, he said. But council members agreed that though it had its faults, the council did provide a forum for the airing of grievances, the dispelling of rumours and for general discussion which made an important contribution to morale.

Next month PPL will be integrated with the flavours and fragrances division of its parent company. The council will continue to operate at the Ashford site.

Surveys of company councils and other forms of industrial democracy have been unable to show any clear trends. The British Institute of Management, for instance, produced a survey last year in which 93 per cent of responding firms claimed to have established, or to be establishing, worker participation.

The CBI though produced a more comprehensive report on 413 companies which employed a total of more than three million people. This report showed that only 17 per cent of company chairmen chaired company or works councils and only 17 per cent of firms with such councils had established them in the last three years — indicating a slow rate of change.

But last month, in the week after Sir Raymond Pennock, CBI President, argued in the columns of *The Times* for more positive moves to involve workers, the Confederation was taking a rather more optimistic view. This optimism was based on an independent survey of the employees of the same 413 companies which showed more than half the workforce felt their managements had become less secretive and more inclined to consultation. Only 29 per cent said there had been no improvement.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	13%
Barclays	13%
BCCI	13%
Consolidated Crds ...	13%
C. Hoare & Co	*13%
Lloyds Bank	13%
Midland Bank	13%
Nat Westminster	13%
TSB	13%
Williams & Glyn's	13%

★ 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000 10¼%, £10,000 up to £50,000 11% £50,000 and over 11½%.

Business Editor

The pressure stays on

For those who have been advocating a lower exchange rate, sterling below $1.75 and heading fast for DM4.20 may seem like a reasonable start. But even if they were happy with a small devaluation, I rather doubt that the authorities are inclined to see silver linings on the present foreign exchange clouds.

Indeed, the far more pressing thought must be how to arrest a much more serious run on the pound should it show signs of developing in the days and weeks ahead. Money market rates have been relatively slow to respond — largely thanks to a generous supply of liquidity from the Bank — though period rates were notably firmer yesterday and bill dealing rates clearly reflected nervousness on the part of the houses given that the forecast shortage was no more than £50m. Presumably, the Bank will want to hold off taking interest rate action as long as possible. But if it chooses to play it that way, then action when it does come will almost certainly have to be of the crisis rather than the tinkering variety.

Ironically, yesterday's preliminary estimate of a March money supply (sterling M3) rise of only ¼ per cent was better than generally expected.

Although domestic money supply developments are hardly likely to be a major factor in foreign exchange market thinking at ther moment, the figures are in any case not necessarily as good as they look.

Without the benefit of the collection of a further £1,000m of back tax, sterling M3 might well have grown by closer to 1 per cent.

Bank lending to the private sector is once again the villian of the piece, probably rising by at least £2,000m. The London clearers estimate the underlying increase in their lending at £1,600m-£1,700m. But that will represent some movement by borrowers out of market borrowing back into overdrafts; and the Bank's own massive purchases of commercial bills may well be offset by a large fall in discount house balance sheets and non-bank holdings of bills.

Hammerson

Tidying up

The wish to tidy up the portfolio is the excuse given by Hammerson Property and Investment Trust chairman Mr Sydney Mason for asking shareholdersto dig into their pockets for £70.5m. The bulk (£55.9m) of cash from the 3 for 10 rights issue is being used to buy out minority interests in some of the group's properties, incuding the Brent Cross shopping centre. The remainder is earmarked for extending Hammerson's Bow Valley Square development in Calgary, Canada.

For the year to December the group's gross rental incoem was £50.8m, up a quarter, and the Mitre House and Brent Cross deals should be worth an additional £3m in revenue. Pre-tax profits last year were up by almost a half at just over £15m.

The market shuddered slightly on yesterday's rights news, and with the ordinary and "A" closing at 600p and 585p respectively, the group is capitalized at £282m.

Estimated net asset value per share pre-issue is put at about 800p. Following the issue, this is likely to be diluted to about 725p, though some brokers are forecasting a net asset value of 760p from the resulting marriage values.

Mr Mason is at long last complying with the new accounting standard for property investment companies and is undertaking an internal revaluation of the group portfolio this year with a promise that an independent valuation will be conducted within the next five years. This may finally end the estimates of the company's true worth which have been floating around the market for years.

Bowater

Asset backing

Bowater has bettered market forecasts of £100m pretax profits for 1981, turning in £106.7m. The group's share price also bucked the market's downward trend, rising 1p to 239p despite the failure to increase the year's dividend from 16.42p gross. But behind the apparent gloss, the figures are not wildly encouraging and seem to point towards barely improved profitability in the present year. A prime factor in the profits improvement — up from £85m last time — is the favourable sterling/dollar exchange rate.

North American paper and pulp continues to contribute the major part of the group's profits and its asset backing for the share. Bowater expects it to go on doing so for the forseeable future, but two major problems are looming.

The slow-down of the United States economy and renegotiation of Canadian labour contracts in the present year — traditionally a tough proposition — have acted as antidotes to enthusiasm about Bowater's 1982 prospects.

Newsprint operations - which account for between 35 and 40 per cent of group trading profits - are said to he holding up well, with the main problem one of overcapacity rather than poor demand. Newsprint stocks are however understood to be around double their normal level. The pulp operations are near the bottom of the cycle, and the hope is that demand should begin to improve by the end of the year, depending on the strength of an economic recovery.

As for the United Kingdom operations, 1982 may he slightly less descouraging. Last year the profitability of British and European sector fell by £6m, but 1981's rationalization exercise should reduce costs.

About £7m went on cutting back the size of the workforce; and Heavy loss-maker were also disposed of. But trading is still bumping along the bottom with no sign of sustained recovery.

A yeild of 6.9 per cent is hardly exciting without speculative takeover support. Current cost shareholders' funds of £819m make Bowater a large lump to swallow - but them the current market value of the group is a rather more modest £375m.

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div(p)	Yld %	P/E Actual	P/E Fully Taxed
130	100	Ass Brit Ind CULS	128	-2	10.0	7.8	—	—
75	62	Airsprung Group	73	—	4.7	6.4	11.6	16.0
51	33	Armitage & Rhodes	44	-1	4.3	9.8	3.7	8.3
205	187	Bardon Hill	199	-2	9.7	4.9	9.7	11.8
107	100	CCL 11% Conv Pref	106	-1	15.7	14.8	—	—
104	61	Deborah Services	61	-1	6.0	9.8	3.0	5.7
131	97	Frank Horsell	125	—	6.4	5.1	11.3	23.1
83	39	Frederick Parker	76	—	6.4	8.4	3.9	7.4
78	46	George Blair	54	—	—	—	—	—
102	93	Ind Prec Castings	96	-1	7.3	7.6	6.9	10.4
109	100	Isis Conv Pref	108	-1	15.7	14.5	—	—
113	94	Jackson Group	96	-1	7.0	7.3	3.0	6.8
130	108	James Burrough	115	—	8.7	7.6	8.4	10.6
334	242	Robert Jenkins	242	-2	31.3	12.9	3.4	8.6
64	51	Scruttons "A"	63	-1	5.3	8.4	9.7	9.0
222	159	Torday & Carlisle	159	—	10.7	6.7	5.1	9.5
15	10	Twinlock Ord	13½	-½	—	—	—	—
89	66	Twinlock 15% ULS	80	—	15.0	18.8	—	—
44	25	Unilock Holdings	25	—	3.0	12.0	4.5	7.6
103	73	Walter Alexander	79	-1	6.4	8.1	5.2	9.2
263	212	W. S. Yeates	229xd	—	14.5	6.3	6.0	12.0

Prices now available on Prestel page 48146

BUSINESS NEWS/COMPANIES AND MARKET REPORTS

CLORE ESTATE

Verdict expected

The fate of one of Britain's largest private fortunes — the estimated £40m estate of the late Sir Charles Clore — will be known tomorrow when the Court of Appeal hands down it'sjudgment.

The Court will give its verdict on an Inland Revenue appeal that it should be allowed to recover tax totalling between £29m and £39m the Clore estate. Specifically the Revenue wants authority to serve legal proceedings on Stype Investments (Jersey), a company controlled by a Jersey-based settlement set up by Sir Charles before his death. Stype remoned substantial parts of the Clore estate from Britain to Jersey, and there out of the Inland Revenue'sjurisdiction.

But even if the Revenue wins the legal arguments, officials privately concede that they face severe difficulties in actually getting access to the Clore estate's funds, since Jersey jealously guards its tax haven status.



The late Sir Charles Clore

Sir Charles, who died in England in July 1979, was reputedly Britain's richest man. Two years before his death he began transferring his assets out of the United Kingdom. In 1978 he sold shares worth £13m and transferred the proceeds out of the country. Two months before he died he conveyed his Herefordshire estate to Stype Investments (Jersey), and shortly after his death the estate was sold for £20.5m and the proceeds transferred to Jersey.

The Revenue has told the Court of Appeal judges that the remaining Clore estate assets in England — believed to be worth around £18m — are not enough to pay the total tax bill. Another £15m worth of English-based assets belonging to Stype Investments have been frozen by a court injunction.

In the earlier High Court hearing, the Revenue claim that Stype Investments had "inter-meddled" in the Clore estate was rejected.

This week's judgment is unlikely to be the end of the matter. The size of the sums involved make it a strong possibility that whichever side loses on Wednesday will take the case to the House of Lords.

HIGGS AND HILL

Turnover up

Completion of a number of major contracts helped Higgs and Hill, the international construction and property group, to raise taxable profits by 73 per cent to £4.64m in the year to December.

This was comfortably above the forecast made by Mr Edwin Phillips, chairman, at the half-year, that the second half would be comparable to the first, when profits were up from £802,000 to £1.54m pre-tax.

Turnover for the year rose from £122m to £127m, and total distributions for the year are up 35 per cent with a 5.68p gross fonal making 9.23p per share against 6.86p.

In its United Kingdom construction business the chairman says that after enjoying another good year, the intake of new work was more than satisfactory in the present market, providing a healthy workload for 1982.

Overseas the Cairo Plaza projrct in now nearing completion, and could make a contribution in the current year, while in Trinidad the group's performance continues to be satisfactory.

Property trading activities were hit by lack of tenant demand, but the group plans further developments, including a 70,000 sq ft warehouse development at West Drayton, London, and a substantial office scheme at Brighton, which might be retained as and investment.

Its European property division faced similar problems of lack of demand, but development continued on its big industrial scheme at Carros, Nice, and a number of commercial schemes around Paris, all of which were likely to be eventually sold on.



Edwin Phillips

Housebuilding suffered the slump in demand in the second half, but is stepping up output from less than 200 homes last year, and has a land bank sufficient for two year's work. There were now signs of improving demand.

In line with the rest of the stock market, Higgs and Hill shares shed 10p to 147p where they yield 6.3 per cent.

REED EXECUTIVE

Dividend passed

Reed Executive, the employment agency group, made a pretax loss of £1.65m in the 53 weeks to January 2 against a £249,000 profit and is passing its final dividend, for the second year in succession.

But it repesents some improvement after first half losses of £954,000 pretax and Mr Alec Reed, chairman, said the prospects for 1982 were decidedly more promising than at this time last year.

He added that while the group would incur a loss in the first half, this should be offset by a profit in the second half. Turnover slipped from £35.64m to £33.19m. There was a first half distribution of 0.14p per share gross, against 2.13p.

There was a continued improvement from the group's 30 Medicare drugstores, where losses were cut from £382,000 to £105,000, of which £57,000 was pre-opening expenses. Operating losses were only 0.8 per cent of turnover against 4 per cent in 1980 and 8 per cent in 1979.

A revolution of the group's property threw up a £1.7m surplus, with net assets valued at £4.6m, or 44p per share. Reed shares slipped 1p to 27p where they yield 0.5 per cent.

SENIOR ENG

Bright outlook

Senior Engineering, the Watford-based engineering product trader, has staged some recovery in the second half of the year to December 1981 with pretax profits down only £1m from £5.09m to £4.01m.

At the half year profits fell dramatically from £3.03m to £1.4m on sales down £7.2m at £31.8m. Sales for the full year also recovered — to £68.5m against £79.05m last time.

At the trading level profits are down from £6.01m to £4.6m, but a fall in exceptional charges — from £299,000 to £266,000 and a drop in the interest charge by almost half to £389,000 — helped the pretax figure.

During 1981, the group's Thermal and Steel Tube divisions suffered the biggest problems of the recession, the company says. But the improved results, which are largely in line with forecasts, are due to some extent to prompt action to reorganize certain parts, the company says.

Senior, whose chairman is Professor Roland Smith, now says it has stronger resources than last year and expects improvements in profitability to show through this year.

"But margins remain under severe pressure and business is far fron buoyant", it says.

The market yeaterday took account of the improved second half performance and marked the shares up 1p to 26p against the trend. A final dividend of 1.07p gross, making a total payout of 2.14p gross is the same as last year, but represents an increase following last June's placing of 10.5m 10p shares.



Professor Smith

OVERSEAS COMPANIES

Fokker, the Netherlands aircraft manufacturer, reported a 10 per cent earnings increase for 1981 on a 15 per cent rise in sales. Net income climbed to the equivalent of $4.1m (£2.3m) year from £3.7m. Sales jumped to $485.3m from $423m.

Great Atlantic Pacific Tea, of New Jewsey, said it expects to report a net loss — exclusive of a revitalization programme and pension plan items — for the fourth quarter and fiscal year of about £2.9m and £31.6m (£1.65m and £18m) respectively.

Mr William F. Smith Jr, president and chief executive officer of Pabst Brewing, said the American company returned to profitability in the first quarter despite an unusually cold winter and other adverse factors.

The takeover of a 12 per cent stake in Agricola Finanziaria, carried out on the Milan stock market last Friday, was rumoured to be part of the recent agreement between the Italian Ferruzzi group and France's Compagnie Sucres et Denrees.

Losses among the United States federally insured Savings and Loan Associations amounted to a record $4,600m (£2,628m) in 1981 and could widen to $6,000m this year, Federal officials estimate.

CAPITAL MARKETS

Price of four seasoned Euromark Bonds for Argentina plunged in heavy selling in Frankfurt yesterday, dealers said. They added that the issues, for a tital of DM550m, had lost 2 points or more in yesterday's trading and more than 4 points since the crisis with Britain over the Falkland Islands started on friday.

Argentina's most recent issue, a 10-year, DM150m bond launched in 1979 with a coupon of 7.5 per cent was trading around 76¼, down over 3 points from its price late last week and compared to the 1979 pricing of 98.5.

Other bonds, all for the Argentine state, include a seven-year, DM100m issue with a 7.5 per cent coupon priced at 99.5 in 1977, a seven-year, DM150m, 10 year issue with a 6.5 per cent coupon priced at 99 in 1978.

A 10-year, DM 150m Eurobond for the Interamerican Development Bank-Iadb was launched yesterday with a 9 per cent coupon and a pricing at 99.5 per cent, according to lead manager Deutsche Bank.

Frankfurt traders said the conditions would bring a yield of 9.08 per cent, which mirrors present market conditions. The new bonds entered a mark-denominated Eurobond market that was considerably calmer from previous days. Dealers said market participants were seen holding present positions in view of the impending four-day Easter holiday, when West German markets are closed.

The Commonwealth Trading Bank of Australia (CTB) and Manufacturers Hanover Trust will lead manage a $Aus350m funding to finance an Australian communications satellite, banking sources said.

Eurodollar bond prices were irregularly firm yesterday morning as a syndicate led by Morgan Guaranty and Societe Generale launched a $100m, six-year floating-rate note issue with warrants for SNCF, the French railways.

The SNCF issue, which is guaranteed by the French Government, pays interest quarterly at the London Interbank offered rate. Each note carries a one-year warrant to purchase a like amount of 14.25 per cent, eight-year SNCF notes at par.

A two-part note offering for Campbell Soup reportedly sold out in one day despite aggressive terms. The offering consists of a $50m, seven-year note issue at par bearing 14 per cent and a $200m, 10-year zero coupon issue at 27 to yield 13.99 per cent.

Elsewhere, a $150m, 15-year issue of Aetna Life and Casualty was quoted at 99.5 to 99.75 in grey market trading, indicating a warm reception. The issue pays 15 per cent 1986 when a new rate will be set.

BIDS AND DEALS

Singer has completed sale of its air condition and heating equipment division to Snyder General Corp.

Proceeds will be applied to replace funds used to purchase, in the open market, Singer debs and Singer Credit debs due in 1999 and 1992 respectively. The sale would enable it to concentrate on other businesses more consistent with its future plans. Singer does not expect transactions to have significant impact on its income for 1982.

The balance of the consideration of £2,156,393 will be satisfied by the issue of 1,843,0[illegible] new ordinary in BCI

A circular from Brent Chemicals International giving details of the proposed acquisition of Reddish Companies, which was first announced on December [illegible] 1981, has been despatched.

Certain shareholders, including all the executive directors of Reddish, have elected to take [illegible] the consideration due to them in BCI ordinary shares.

WALL STREET

New York, April 6. — Share prices were mixed in moderate trading at the opening of the New York Stock Exchange today.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up by 0.48 of a point to 835.80 shortly after the market opened.

Declines outnumbered advances by 389 to 303, among the 1,113 issues crossing the tape.

Early NYSE turnover reached about 3.1m shares.

Prices were higher in moderate trading on American Stock Exchange.

Analysts said the market may continue its search for direction following its recent advances.

Uncertainty about the course of interest rates, the duration of the recession and President Reagan's Budget deficits have had a dampening influence on rally attempts.

Share prices later turned lower as a snowstorm blanketing the New York Metropolitan area prompted the planned early closure of the New York Mercantile Exchange and possibly other commodity markets. Volume was light.

The Dow Jones Average was down by 2.47 points to 832.85 at about 11 am (New York time).

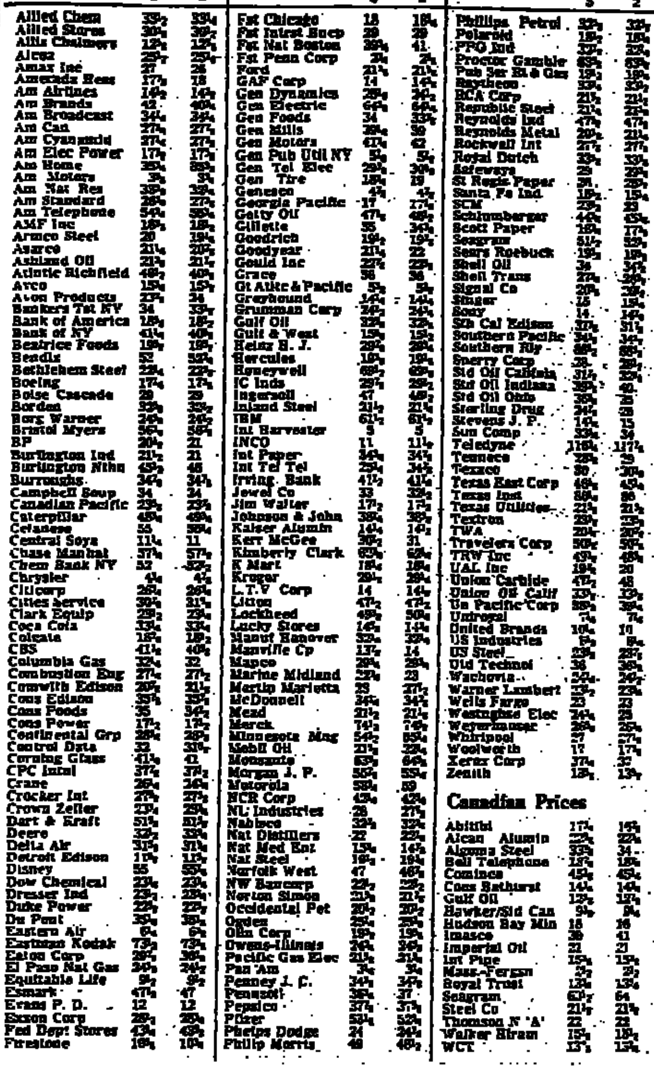
Declines outnumbered advances 570-378 among the 1,426 issues crossing the tape.

The first-hour turnover of about 10m shares compared with 13.4m shares on Monday.

Prices were slightly higher in moderate trading of American Stock Exchange issues.

American Telephone & Telegraph was the most active issue up $¼ to $55.

The Wall Street and Canadian stock prices in the table relate to Monday's close, because of the shift to British Summer Time. This will continue until Eastern Daylight Time begins in the United States.



	Apr 5	Apr 2		Apr 5	Apr 2		Apr 5	Apr 2
Allied Chem	33½	33¼	Fst Chicago	18	18¼	Phillips Petrol	32½	32½
Allied Stores	30¼	30½	Fst Intrst Bncp	29	29	Polaroid	18½	18¾
Allis Chalmers	12⅝	12⅝	Fst Nat Boston	39¾	41	PPG Ind	32½	32¾
Alcoa	25⅞	25⅝	Fst Penn Corp	2⅝	2⅝	Proctor Gamble	83¾	83¾
Amax Inc	27	28	Ford	21⅜	21⅜	Pub Ser El & Gas	19½	19¾
Amerada Hess	17⅞	18	GAF Corp	14	14⅛	Raytheon	33¾	33½
Am Airlines	14½	14½	Gen Dynamics	25⅝	26½	RCA Corp	21⅞	21¼
Am Brands	42	40¾	Gen Electric	64⅝	64¼	Republic Steel	21⅜	22⅜
Am Broadcast	34¼	34¼	Gen Foods	34	33⅞	Reynolds Ind	47⅝	47⅜
Am Can	27⅜	27⅜	Gen Mills	39⅛	39	Reynolds Metal	20½	21¼
Am Cyanamid	27⅛	27⅜	Gen Motors	41⅞	42	Rockwell Int	27⅞	27⅜
Am Elec Power	17⅜	17⅜	Gen Pub Util NY	5⅜	5½	Royal Dutch	33⅛	33⅜
Am Home	35¾	35⅝	Gen Tel Elec	29⅝	30⅛	Safeways	29	29⅜
Am Motors	3⅝	3⅝	Gen Tire	18¾	19	St Regis Paper	31	29⅜
Am Nat Res	33⅝	33¼	Genesco	4⅜	4½	Santa Fe Ind	18½	15¼
Am Standard	26⅝	27⅛	Georgia Pacific	17	17⅝	SCM	23⅞	23
Am Telephone	54¼	55¼	Getty Oil	47⅞	48½	Schlumberger	44⅞	45⅞
AMF Inc	18⅝	18½	Gillette	35	34⅝	Scott Paper	18⅜	17⅜
Armco Steel	20	19¼	Goodrich	19½	19⅝	Seagram	51½	52⅛
Asarco	21¼	20⅞	Goodyear	21¼	22	Sears Roebuck	19⅛	19⅜
Ashland Oil	21⅜	21½	Gould Inc	22⅞	22⅝	Shell Oil	34	34⅞
Atlntic Richfield	40½	40⅝	Grace	36	36	Shell Trans	27¼	28⅝
Avco	15¼	15⅛	Gt Atlic & Pacific	5⅜	5⅛	Signal Co	20⅝	20⅛
Avon Products	23⅝	24	Greyhound	14¼	14¼	Singer	15	15⅛
Bankers Tst NY	34	33½	Grumman Corp	24½	24¼	Sony	14	14⅞
Bank of America	18⅜	18½	Gulf Oil	32⅞	32⅛	Sth Cal Edison	32⅞	31⅞
Bank of NY	41¼	40⅜	Gulf & West	15⅝	15½	Southern Pacific	34⅛	34½
Beatrice Foods	19⅛	19⅛	Heinz H. J.	29⅞	29¾	Southern Rly	68½	68⅛
Bendix	52	52⅝	Hercules	19⅜	19⅜	Sperry Corp	28	28½
Bethlehem Steel	22¼	22⅞	Honeywell	68½	69⅜	Std Oil Califnia	31⅝	32¼
Boeing	17¼	17⅜	IC Inds	29⅞	29½	Std Oil Indiana	39⅜	40
Boise Cascade	29	29	Ingersoll	47	46½	Std Oil Ohio	30⅝	30
Borden	33⅝	33½	Inland Steel	21½	21⅜	Sterling Drug	24⅝	25
Borg Warner	24⅝	24½	IBM	61½	61½	Stevens J. P.	14⅝	15
Bristol Myers	56⅝	58⅝	Int Harvester	5	5	Sun Comp	33¼	34
BP	20½	21	INCO	11	11⅛	Teledyne	116¾	117¼
Burlington Ind	21½	21	Int Paper	34⅛	34⅞	Tenneco	28⅝	29
Burlington Nthn	45½	46	Int Tel Tel	25¼	24⅞	Texaco	30	30⅛
Burroughs	34⅞	34⅞	Irving Bank	41½	41¼	Texas East Corp	46⅛	45⅛
Campbell Soup	34	34	Jewel Co	33	32⅝	Texas Inst	80⅛	80
Canadian Pacific	23⅞	23⅝	Jim Walter	17½	17⅝	Texas Utilities	21⅜	21⅜
Caterpillar	45¾	49¼	Johnson & John	38¼	38½	Textron	23½	23⅜
Celanese	55	55¼	Kaiser Alumin	14¼	14½	TWA	20⅛	20⅝
Central Soya	11¼	11	Kerr McGee	30½	31	Travelers Corp	50½	50⅝
Chase Manhat	57⅜	57⅛	Kimberly Clark	63⅝	62⅛	TRW Inc	49½	48⅝
Chem Bank NY	52	52½	K Mart	18¼	18¼	UAL Inc	19⅝	20
Chrysler	4¼	4⅜	Kroger	29¼	29¼	Union Carbide	47½	48
Citicorp	26¼	26⅝	L.T.V Corp	14	14½	Union Oil Calif	33½	33¼
Cities Service	30¾	31⅝	Litton	47½	47½	Un Pacific Corp	38⅝	38¼
Clark Equip	23½	23¼	Lockheed	49⅝	50¼	Uniroyal	7⅜	7¼
Coca Cola	33¼	33¼	Lucky Stores	14⅝	14⅝	United Brands	10¼	10
Colgate	18⅝	18½	Manuf Hanover	32¼	32⅝	US Industries	8⅝	8¼
CBS	41⅜	40⅝	Manville Cp	13⅞	14	US Steel	23⅝	23⅞
Columbia Gas	32¼	32	Mapco	29⅝	29¼	Utd Technol	36	36⅛
Combustion Eng	27¼	27½	Marine Midland	22⅛	23	Wachovia	24⅛	24½
Comwlth Edison	20⅝	21⅛	Martin Marietta	28	27½	Warner Lambert	23½	23⅛
Cons Edison	35⅝	35⅝	McDonnell	34⅛	34⅜	Wells Fargo	23	23
Cons Foods	35	34½	Mead	21½	21⅛	Westnghse Elec	24⅝	25
Cons Power	17½	17½	Merck	74½	74½	Weyerhauser	26⅝	25⅝
Continental Grp	28¼	28⅝	Minnesota Mng	54½	55⅛	Whirlpool	27	27⅜
Control Data	32	31⅞	Mobil Oil	21⅜	22⅛	Woolworth	17	17⅜
Corning Glass	41⅛	42	Monsanto	63⅝	64⅝	Xerox Corp	37¼	37
CPC Intnl	37⅜	37½	Morgan J. P.	55⅝	55⅛	Zenith	13⅝	13½
Crane	26¼	26⅛	Motorola	59⅜	59			
Crocker Int	27⅞	27⅞	NCR Corp	42⅛	42⅜			
Crown Zeller	23⅝	23⅜	NL Industries	28	27⅜			
Dart & Kraft	51⅝	51⅝	Nabisco	32⅜	32⅛			
Deere	32½	32⅝	Nat Distillers	22	22⅜			
Delta Air	31⅞	31¾	Nat Med Ent	13⅝	14⅛			
Detroit Edison	11⅞	11⅞	Nat Steel	19½	19¼			
Disney	55	55¾	Norfolk West	47	46⅞			
Dow Chemical	23⅛	23⅜	NW Bancorp	22½	22½			
Dresser Ind	23⅛	23⅜	Norton Simon	21⅜	21⅞			
Duke Power	22⅞	22⅞	Occidental Pet	20½	20½			
Du Pont	35⅛	35¼	Ogden	25¼	25⅜			
Eastern Air	6¼	6⅞	Olin Corp	19⅝	19⅞			
Eastman Kodak	73½	73¾	Owens-Illinois	24⅜	24⅝			
Eaton Corp	28⅝	30⅝	Pacific Gas Elec	21⅜	21⅛			
El Paso Nat Gas	24⅞	24½	Pan Am	3⅛	3⅛			
Equitable Life	9½	9½	Penney J. C.	34⅜	34⅞			
Esmark	47⅞	47	Pennzoil	36⅛	37			
Evans P. D.	12	12	Pepsico	37¼	37⅜			
Exxon Corp	28⅛	28¾	Pfizer	53¼	52¼			
Fed Dept Stores	43⅜	43⅝	Phelps Dodge	24	24⅛			
Firestone	10⅝	10¼	Philip Morris	48	48½			

Canadian Prices

	Apr 5	Apr 2
Abitibi	17⅜	19⅜
Alcan Alumin	22⅛	22⅛
Algoma Steel	33⅝	34
Bell Telephone	18⅝	18⅛
Cominco	45⅛	45¼
Cons Bathurst	14¼	14⅛
Gulf Oil	12⅝	12⅞
Hawker/Sid Can	9⅝	9¼
Hudson Bay Min	18	18
Imasco	39	41
Imperial Oil	21	21
Int Pipe	15⅝	15½
Mass-Fergsn	2⅝	2½
Royal Trust	13⅝	13¼
Seagram	63½	64
Steel Co	21½	21⅞
Thomson N 'A'	22	22
Walker Hiram	15⅛	18⅛
WCT	13⅛	13⅞

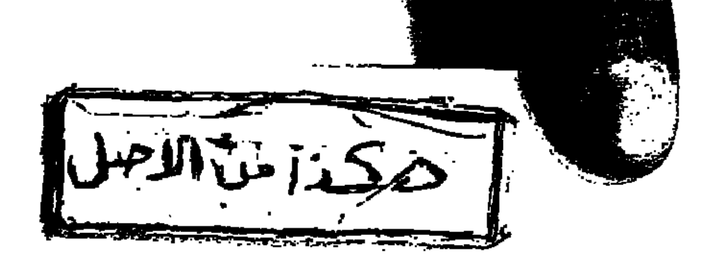
e Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. b Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

This table is published on Wednesday and Saturday

Authorized Unit Trusts

1981/82 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]





Stock Exchange Prices

Sharp falls in gilts

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 29. Dealings End, April 16. § Contango Day, April 19. Settlement Day, April 26.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

BRITISH FUNDS — SHORTS — MEDIUMS — LONGS — COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN — LOCAL AUTHORITIES — DOLLAR STOCKS — BANKS AND DISCOUNTS — BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES — COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL (A—B, C—E, F—H, I—L, M—N, O—S, T—Z) — FINANCIAL TRUSTS — INSURANCE — INVESTMENT TRUSTS — SHIPPING — MINES — OIL — PROPERTY — RUBBER — TEA — MISCELLANEOUS

[illegible]

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
173	93	McCorquodale	161	-2	11.4	7.1	7.0
78	70	Macfarlane	78	+1	5.7	7.3	0.8
80	18	McInerney Prop	26	..	2.2	8.5	6.0
58	25	Mackay H.	51	• -1	5.7	11.2	8.6
127	85	McKechnie Bros	95	-2	10.4	10.9	7.7
86	56	Macpherson D.	81	-1	6.0	7.4	10.8
174	108	Magnet & S'thns	158	-6	7.1	4.5	11.3
117	97	Man Agcy Music	115	-2	12.5	10.9	9.8
203	96	Man Ship Canal	96	..	..	..	..
154	72	Marchwiel	120	-10	9.4	7.9	9.4
155	106	Marks & Spencer	147	-3	5.8	3.9	20.0
51	33½	Marley Ltd	43	..	3.2	7.5	11.9
37	14½	Marling Ind	35	-2	1.4	4.0	24.5

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
102	83	Stag Furniture	92	• -2	7.1	7.8	8.8
68	39	Stakis (Reo)	65	-4	2.3	3.5	11.0
544	374	Standard Tel	505	• -10	19.3	3.8	13.9
81	45	Stanley A. G.	56	-4	3.6	6.4	9.1
241	128	Steel Bros	212	-5	11.4	5.4	9.1
222	154	Steetley Co	171	• -2	15.0	8.8	10.9
28½	12½	Steinberg	26	-1½	..e	..	..
118	68	Stonehill	68	-2	6.1	8.9	23.4
33	16	Streeters	24	-2	..	..	8.2
66	46	Strong & Fisher	52	• -2	4.3	8.2	..
114	79	Sunlight Serv	106	-5	3.6	3.4	8.8
52	30	Sutcliffe S'man	30	-3	..e	..	..
188	85½	Swire Pacific 'A'	100½	..	..	..	..
195	140	Syltone	188	-6	12.9	6.8	20.9

TEA

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
468	415	Camellia Inv	463	• ..	8.6	1.9	..
380	230	McLeod Russel	335	-5	11.8	3.5	..
153	120	Do 8.4% Cnv Pf	120	-1	12.0	10.0	..
295	255	Moran	292	..	7.1t	2.4	..
128	93	Surmah Valley	125	..	1.4	1.1	..

MISCELLANEOUS

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
46	27½	Calcutta Elec	43	..	8.8	20.4	..
34½	29	Essex Wtr 3.5%	£33½	..	500	14.9	..
34	30	Gt Nthn Tele	£32	..	82.2	2.6	12..
265	150	Imp Cont Gas	173	-5	11.9	6.8	11.1
158	93	Milford Docks	127	-10	0.7	0.6	..
193	122	Nesco Inv	128	..	10.0	7.8	..
35	28½	Sunderlnd Wtr	£33	..	500	15.2	..

• Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price
A I M Group 10p Ord (140)	140-3
Amersham International 25p Ord (142)	195-4
Bristol Water 9% Red Pf 1987 (†b)	£11+⅛
Dew George 25p Ord	123-4
Exchequer 13¼% 'A' 1987	£99½-1
Fleet Holdings 20p Ord	23½-½
Io Technology 5p Ord (250a)	250
Jebsens Drilling 25p Ord (a)	270
Lee Valley Water 9½% Red Pf 1989 (†)	£100½
Leisure Industries 25p Ord (120a)	126-5
Newmarket Co 1981 Ltd $0.05 (£3.05)	238-2
Oceonics 10p Ord (130a)	150-10
Osprey Assets 25p Ord	30
Owners Abroad 10p Ord (10a)	25-1¼
PH Industrials 25p Ord	30½
Standard Securities 25p Ord	133
Television South West 5p Ord	17
Treasury 2% Index Linked 1988 (†h)	£47½-1⅛

RIGHTS ISSUES	Latest date of renun	
First Castle Electronic (30‡)	May 5	56‡-3
Riley Leisure (29‡)	June 4	4 prem-1½
St Georges Group (74‡)	May 6	29 prem-1

Issue price in parentheses. * Ex dividend. † Issued by tender. ‡ Nil paid. a unlisted securities market. b. £10 paid. f fully paid. g £40 paid. h £50 paid. i £35 paid. j £55 paid. k Issued in units of sixteen shares and £5 nominal loan stock at £9 per unit.

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) April 6	Market rates (close) April 6	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.7435-1.7635	$1.7490-1.7500	0.22-0.32c disc	0.58-0.68c disc
Montreal	$2.1460-2.1660	$2.1490-2.1500	0.40-0.50c disc	1.30-1.30c disc
Amsterdam	4.67-4.73fl	4.68-4.69fl	2½-2c prem	6⅞-6⅜c prem
Brussels	79.50-80.50f	79.70-79.80f	18-38c disc	60-80c disc
Copenhagen	14.34-14.55k	14.37-14.38k	835-925ore disc	1980-2115ore disc
Dublin	1.2150-1.2285p	1.2160-1.2170p	60-75p disc	180-200p disc
Frankfurt	4.21-4.26m	4.22-4.23m	1¾-1½pf prem	5¼-4¾pf prem
Lisbon	125.00-127.50e	125.50-126.50e	145-330c disc	370-905c disc
Madrid	187.25-188.50p	187.60-187.70p	70-100c disc	200-245c disc
Milan	2316-2336lr	2321-2323lr	33-37lr disc	72-77lr disc
Oslo	10.66-10.80k	10.68-10.69k	600-705ore disc	890-935 ore disc
Paris	10.95-11.06f	10.97½-10.98½f	8-11c disc	21½-24½c disc
Stockholm	10.37-10.50k	10.40½-10.41½k	30-30ore prem	70-10ore
Tokyo	432-442y	433½-434½y	2.75-2.40y prem	7.50-7.15y prem
Vienna	29.55-29.95sch	29.65-29.70sch	14-10gro prem	34-28gro prem
Zurich	3.43-3.46f	3.44-3.45f	3¼-2¾c prem	7½-7c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was down 0.9 at 89.4.

Money Market Rates

Clearing Banks Base Rate 13%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 12 Low 4

Week Fixed: 12¼-12¾

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	12⅞	2 months	12¾
3 months	12¾	3 months	12½

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

1 month	13⅛-13	1 month	13⅝
2 months	13⅛-12⅞	2 months	13⅝
3 months	13⅟₁₆-13	3 months	13½
6 months	13⅛-12⅞	6 months	13⅜

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	14½-14⅛	7 months	13⅞-13⅝
2 months	14½-14⅛	8 months	13⅞-13⅝
3 months	14⅜-14⅛	9 months	14¼-14
4 months	14¼-14	10 months	14¼-14
5 months	14⅛-13½	11 months	14¼-14
6 months	13⅞-13⅝	12 months	14¼-14

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	13⅝-13⅟₁₆	6 months	14⅛-13⅞
3 months	14⅟₁₆-13⅞	12 months	14¼-13⅞

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	13¼	3 months	13⅝
7 days	13¼	6 months	13⅝
1 month	13⅜	1 year	13½

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 13⅜-13½ Close 4

1 week	13-12¾	6 months	14⅛-14
1 month	13⅝-13½	9 months	14⅛-14
3 months	14⅟₁₆-13¹⁵⁄₁₆	12 months	14⅛-14

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate %)

3 months 14½ — 6 months 14½

Finance House Base Rate 14½%

Other Markets

Australia	1.6620-1.6770
Bahrein	0.665-0.6645
Finland	8.1045-8.1445
Greece	109.35-111.35
Hongkong	10.2140-10.2540
Iran	not available
Kuwait	0.5035-0.5065
Malaysia	4.1070-4.1370
Mexico	79.65-81.15
New Zealand	2.2965-2.3165
Saudi Arabia	6.0190-6.0490
Singapore	3.7430-3.7730
South Africa	1.8610-1.8760

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.4347-1.4367
† Canada	1.2287-1.2289
Netherlands	2.6750-2.6730
Belgium	45.53-45.56
Denmark	8.22-8.23
West Germany	2.4130-2.4140
Portugal	71.70-72.20
Spain	107.10-107.20
Italy	1326.75-1327.50
Norway	6.12-6.13
France	6.2725-6.2775
Sweden	5.9450-5.9550
Japan	247.75-247.95
Austria	16.94-16.96
Switzerland	1.9700-1.9715

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
† Canada $1 : US $0.8137-0.8139

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 13½-14½; seven days, 14¾-15; one month, 15¼-15⅜; three months, 15¼-15½; six months, 15½-15¾.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $346.25 (an ounce); pm, $345.80 close, $349.50.
Krugerrand (per coin): $360-362 (£205.75-206.75).
Sovereigns (new): $84-85 (£48-48.5).

FOOTBALL

Villa look for key to open Anderlecht's defence

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

Tony Barton, appointed as manager of Aston Villa last week, takes his side into the semi-final of the European Cup against opponents that he watched last Sunday. For the first leg against Anderlecht at Villa Park, a capacity crowd of 48,000 and record receipts of £520,000 are expected.

Mr Barton knows what to expect. He saw Anderlecht, currently second in the Belgian League, go down 1-0 to their rivals, one place below them, in a match that was played in a "competitive atmosphere." Villa knew virtually nothing about Dynamo Kiev before they met them in the last round.

"Anderlecht are strong defensively," Mr Barton said. "They play five at the back and are looking to pull the opposition forward before breaking quickly." To combat the system, introduced by Tomislav Ivic, Villa have spent the last two days practising against their reserves, instructed to perform in a similar way.

Mr Barton picked out Lozano, a Spaniard in midfield, as Anderlecht's key figure. He will be marked by Mortimer, who dislocted his elbow in the final minute against Kiev and is still not completely fit. Bremner, injured in the same game and absent for the last three games, is though and Villa are at full strength.

The emphasis is not so much on the ideal of taking a substantial lead, more in the realistic approach of preventing Anderlecht from scoring. It was, after all, Villa's performances in East Germany and in the Soviet Union that took them through to the last four and with the opportunity of extending England's hold of the trophy to six years.

Anderlecht, who have appeared in four European final in the last dozen years, will be nothing if not experienced. They themselves had Villa watched in the defeat at Ipswich and in the victory over West Bromwich Albion. They flew into Birmingham yesterday and reported dubts about a defender, de Groote, and a striker, Larsen.

CSKA Sofia, Liverpool's conquerors in the last round, have much more serious doubts about their difficult semi-final at home to Bayern Munich. Four of their players were injured in a Bulgarian League match at the weekend and their manager, Asparouh Nikokimov, commented: "The line-up will probably be chaosen not by me but by the doctor."

ASTON VILLA: J Rimmer, K Swain, G Williams, A Evans, K McNaught, D Mortimer, D Bremner, G Shaw, P Withe, G Cowans, A Morley. Subs: N Spink, P Heard, K Geddis, T Bullivant, M Jones.

ANDERLECHT: (From) Manaron, Broos, Degreel, De Groote, Perusovic, Coerk, Hofkens, Jovanic, Vercauteren, Cluytens, Geurts, Larsen, Lozano, Peturson, Olsen, Dejongh.

Referee: R Ericsson (Sweden).

Ardiles ghost lingers

By Nicholas Harling

The poignant timing of the departure of Osvaldo Ardiles to Argentina and the possible repercussions surrounding the return of his compatriot Ricardo Villa to Tottenham Hotspur's team at White Hart Lane tonight have cast an unwanted shadow over the first leg of the European Cup Winners' Cup semi-final against Barcelona.

All publicity might be good publicity according to most football managers but Keith Burkinshaw was scarcely adhering to that adage as he prepared his team for what will doubtless in any case be a tumultuous evening.

Since Villa, as Mr Burkinshaw confirmed, is a man more about football than politics, the bearded Argentine, who takes the place of the suspended Archibald, will hopefully be more concerned with scoring goals than with the overtones. "He's big enough to contend with it", the manager said, "I've got to play him."

Nor did Mr Burkinshaw have any compunction about filling the midfield vacancy caused by Ardiles with Graham Roberts, once his most versatile player had passed a fitness test on the injured groin that forced him to miss the last few minutes of Saturday's FA Cup semi-final.

Since they reached the last four by losing 2 — 1 at home to Locomotive Leipzig (after a three-nil away win), Barcelona have lost their last three league games, conceding three goals on each occasion to have their League leadership reduced from six points to one.

The Spaniards are likely to stick to their ususal formation, however, of three markers plus the "sweeper" Alesanco at the back, and three in midfield, doubtless reinforced whenever the need arises by the three in attack, the electrifying Simonsen and Moran, who will be flanking Carrasco, deputy for Quini. Knee injuries keep out both Quini, Spain's top League scorer with 23 goals, and Schuster.

Their absences notwithstanding, Barcelona remain such formidable opponents that Tottenham will do well in their 41st match of the season to secure the 2 — 0 lead they hope to take with them to Barcelona for the second leg.

If not, they realise that their chances of making a second visit to Barcelona's magnificent stadium, Campo Nuevo, scene of the final on May 22, will be remote.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR: R Clemence; S Perryman, P Miller, P Price, C Hughton; G Hoddle, M Hazard, G Roberts; G Crooks, R Villa, A Galvin. Subs: M Aleksic, C Jones, J Lacy, G Brooke, I Crook.
BARCELONA (probable): Artola; Sanchez, Olmo, Victor, Manolo, Alexanko, Simonsen, Esteban, Carrasco, Estella, Moran.
Referee: E Mulder (Netherlands).

Finishing flourish from Swansea

By Greth Bowen

Swansea	3
West Brom	1

John Toshack, the Swansea manager, was unwilling to shuffle many cards even after gaining only one point from the last three home games. His changes were limited to the recall of his promising right back, Marustik, and the relegation to the substitutes bench of his enigmatic striker, Leighton James, who did not make much impression in defeats by West Ham and Ipswich which have cast doubt on Swansea's staying power.

Albion fielding 10 of the 11 who finished Saturday's FA Cup semi-final persevered with their £250,000 Dutch signing, Zondervan, who has managed to pick up four cautions in five games.

Swansea's inevitable opening onslaught was generated more by desperate energy than craft. Grew made good saves from a Kennedy header and a Stanley free kick and he picked up by the post a quick shot from Robbie James. But Swansea lacked the cutting edge and their only genuine chance fell to James, but he headed a pinpoint centre from Curtis wide of a post.

It was 20 minutes before West Bromwich reached Swansea's penalty area and then Regis outjumped Stevenson to remind the Welsh supporters, by now slow-handclapping, that there might be menace lurking somewhere in this drab spectacle. Statham made two commendable crosses, which were followed by a caution on him for a foul tackle against Irwin. But all was forgiven, and the Vetch was drowned in despair, when West Bromwich took on the lead on half-time: Mackenzie was the scorer, slipping the ball wide of Davies after a strong dribble through the centre from Cross.

But their pressure was rewarded in the 58th minute with a shot from Marustik, who had picked up a loose ball on the edge of the area. The goal was set up by Stanley, but he was immediately despatched in favour of Leighton James, Mr Toshack no doubt considering this a suitable psychological moment to unleash his sleepy Welsh dragon.

SWANSEA CITY: D Davies; C Marustik, D Hadziabdic, C Irwin, R Kennedy, A Rajkovic, A Curtis, R James, G Stanley, N Stevenson, R Latchford.
WEST BROMWICH ALBION: M Grew; D Arthur, D Statham, M Bennett, J Wile, A Robertson, R Zondervan, N Cross, C Regis, G Owen, S Mackenzie.

Unlucky Hill out again

England introduce five newcomers for today's European under-21 championship quarter-final game with Poland at Upton Park — but there is still no first cap for Luton midfielder Ricky Hill.

Hill was released by Luton manager David Pleat for the first-leg in Warsaw three weeks ago, even though the Second Division pacemakers had a fixture with Barnsley that night. But a crop of injuries at the club forced him to pull out and play in the promotion game. Now an ankle injury has ruled him out of the second-leg.

"Luton have two important matches over the Easter weekend, so it was felt that Hill's ankle should not be risked. It is unfortunate for the lad", said under-21 team manager Dave Sexton.

Hill's misfortune lets in another coloured midfielder. Arsenal's Paul Davis, who wins his first cap together with Andy Peake (Leicester), Andy Ritchie (Brighton). Mark Hateley (Coventry. and Gary Bannister Sheffield Wednesday).

Ray Ranson, one of three Manchester City players in the side, captains the team again, although Tommy Caton would appear to be the closest to a place in the senior squas for the forthcoming World Cup.

Peake's part in Leicester's cup run is recognised by his inclusion, while Bannister's 17 goals have been a key factor in Sheffield Wednesday's Third Division promotion drive.

Ritchie's ten-goal total for Brighton, and Hateley's 12 for Coventry give the side an in-form look in terms of scoring.

"The tie is far from over simply because we won the away leg. The Poles looked a good all-round side, a dangerous side and capable of playing quick one-twos that can cause defenders problems", said England manager Ron Greenwood.

ENGLAND: I Hesford (Blackpool); R Ranson (Man City), G Mabbut (Bristol Rovers), M Proctor (Nottingham Forest), T Caton (Man City), N Reid (Man City), A Peake (Leicester), A Ritchie (Brighton), M Hateley (Coventry), G Bannister (Sheff Wed), P Davis (Arsenal). Subs: M Smith (Sheff Wed), G Thompson (Coventry), V Hilaire (Crystal Palace), C Woods (Norwich).

Scotland sign police chief for World Cup

The Scottish Football Association's campaign against hooliganism by supporters at the World Cup finals in Spain has been reinforced by a former police chief.

The interest of the Scottish fans there will be carefully monitored by John Little, the recently retired chief constable of Tayside, who has been given the new post of security liaison officer for the SFA for Spain.

Mr Little, who was awarded the Queen's Police Medal in 1979, will begin work in Malaga almost immediately. The SFA's secretary, Ernie Walker, said yesterday: "This appointment is to safeguard our interests and the interests of the supporters."

Football results

First Division: Birmingham City 0, Everton 2; Middlesbrough 0, Leeds United 0; Swansea City 3, West Bromwich Albion 1; West Ham United 3, Wolverhampton Wanderers 1.
Scottish Cup, semi-final replay: Rangers 3, Forfar Athletic 1.
First Division: Raith 3, Kilmarnock 3.
Football League Group Cup Final: Grimsby 3, Winbledon 2.

RUGBY UNION

Renwick out of Scottish squad

By Iain Mackenzie

If Scotland play as well in Australia this summer as they did against Wales in Cardiff recently they will have a triumphant tour, said the Scottish Rugby Union's chairman of selectors, Glasgow Academy schoolmaster Ian MacGregor, at Murrayfield yesterday when details of the tour were announced.

He was careful to add a warning about undue optimism, however. "This season we played six internationals and lost only one, but it is a different ball game on the other side of the world," he cautioned. "We did well in Wales and won by playing almost perfect rugby; but while it would be wonderful to see Scotland turn on that form every time, we must not expect too much."

The squad of 26 players, to be led once again by Andy Irvine, is firmly based on that which won five of the eight games played during last summer's tour of New Zealand and then stayed together this season. A notable absentee is Jim Renwick; the Hawick centre is unavailable for personal reasons and his absence will be a relief to the Australians.

A novelty is the inclusion of the Stewart's solid as Melville FP back row twins, Jim and Finlay Calder. Jim is a regular member of the Scottish XV but Finlay has still to be capped. Scottish Rugby Union President Fraser MacAllister said he believed this was the first time twins had been chosen for an international rugby tour party, although brothers have toured together in the past.

Another slightly unusual move has been made by the selectors. David Leslie of Gala is recovering from a broken leg, an injury sustained early in the National League match against Heriot's some weeks ago. He hopes to be fit in time for the tour and had been included in the party; but so has his fellow Border flanker Eric Paxton (Kelso). Paxton, who replaced Leslie in the team beaten in Dublin only to be made the scapegoat, will be omitted if Leslie is fully fit.

Leslie: will tour if leg heals in time

Jim Telfer, the coach and assistant tour manager (Ian MacGregor will be in charge) was very firm on the question of fitness. "Leslie will go through rigourous medical examinations and fitness tests next month," he said, "and if there is the slightest doubt he will stay at home."

Weekend squad sessions will start at Murrayfield immediately after the season ends on May 1 and contine until a final session, for forwards only, on May 26. The party will leave Edinburgh on June 3 and return on July 12.

THE PARTY: P W Dods (Gala), A R Irvine (Heriot's FP, capt); G R T Baird (Kelso), J A Pollock (Gosforth); R J Gordon (London Scottish), D I Johnston (Watsonians), K W Robertson (Melrose), C J Williamson (West of Scotland); B M Gossman (West of Scotland), J Y Rutherford (Selkirk); I G Hunter (Selkirk); R J Laidlaw (Jedforest); J Aitken (Gala), G M McGuinness (West of Scotland), I G Milne (Heriot's FP), N A Rowan (Boroughmuir); R Cunningham (Bath), C T Deans (Hawick), F Calder, J Calder (Stewart's/Melville), I A M Paxton (Selkirk), D B White (Gala), D G Leslie (Gala) or R E Paxton (Kelso), W Cutherbertson (Kilmarnock), I D McKie (Sale), A J Tomes (Hawick).

ITINERARY
June 10 Queensland Country (Mount Isa)
June 13 Queensland (Brisbane)
June 19 Sydney (Sydney)
June 23 Victoria (Melbourne)
June 26 New South Wales (Sydney)
June 29 New South Wales Country (Singleton)
July 4 Australia (Brisbane)
July 6 Australian Capital Territory (Canberra)
July 10 Australia (Sydney)

Barbarians place for Barnes

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

But for their involvement in cup rugby next weekend, Jean-Pierre Rives, Robert Paparemborde and Jean-Luc Joinel would be touring Wales with the Barbarian party this Easter. However, the touring side still maintains a goodly French flavour with the selection of Philippe Dintrans, hooker, Christian Belascain, centre or wing, and Bernard Vivies, stand-off half.

For their traditional programme of games against Penarth (Good Friday), Cardiff (Saturday), Swansea (Monday) and Newport (Tuesday) the Barbarians selected 35 players some of whom are clearly destined to play in one or two fixtures at the most. The choice of four hookers sounds like carrying insurance a bit far, but it is not as yet certain that Dintrans and Peter Wheeler will get to the post.

One of the backs is Stuart Barnes; the Oxford University and Newport stand-off, who has been a member of the Welsh senior squad but has now opted to play for England Under-23 against English Students at Sheffield next Wednesday. No doubt he would fancy a game at full back, which he regards as his best position. One of the forwards is Paul Simpson, an up and coming flanker

PARTY: G Evans (Maesteg), M Wyatt (Swansea); R Ackerman (Newport), R Baird (Kelso), T Ringland (Queen's, Belfast), A Swift (Swansea), C Belascain (Bayonne), P Dodge (Leicester), D Johnston (Watsonians), M Kiernan (Dolphin), C Woodward (Leicester); S Barnes (Oxford University), L Cusworth (Leicester), B Vivies (Argen), I George (London Welsh), I Peck (Bedford); R Cunningham (Gala), I Milne (Heriot's FP), P Rendall (Wasps), G Sargent (Gloucester), P Dintrans (Tarbes), J Herdman (Swansea), P Wheeler (Leicester), A Simpson (Sale), V Cannon (Northampton), W Cuthbertson (Kilmarnock), D Lenihan (UCC), J Syddall (Waterloo), J Calder (Stewart's-Melville), N Jeavons (Moseley), S Jones (Bath), P Simpson (Gosforth), B Hesford (Bristol), G Williams (Bridgend), D White (Gala).

A match to honour Beaumont

By Peter West

Lancashire in their centenary season will play an international XV, including 12 British Lions, at Fylde on Sunday, April 18, to mark the enforced retirement from the game of Bill Beaumont and the immense service he has given to it over the past decade. A sponsorship from Diners' Club International will cover all costs of staging the event, which it is hoped will raise £10,000 for charities of Beaumont's choice. These include the RFU charitable trust, which assists injured players, and the Southport spinal action group

The Irish pair, Ollie Campbell and Rovbbie McGrath, will be at half back in the international XV, with an England three-quarterr line and Dusty Hare behind them. The captain, Fergus Slattery, is one of three Irishmen in a pack including four Welshmen and the England hooker, Peter Wheeler.

Lancashire will be at full strength save for the absence of the injured Mike Siemen and Phil Moss. However, Nick Spaven, of Sale, who played at full back for the North against the Australians, is an exciting, strong-running wing.

LANCASHIRE: K O'Brien (Broughton Park); J. Carleton (Orrell), A Wright (Sale), A Bond (Sale), J Spaven (Sale); P Williams (Orrell), S Smith (Sale); D Tabern (Fylde), M Dixon (Fylde), D Southern (Orrell), D Cusani (Orrell), J Sydall (Waterloo), P Lavin (Broughton Park), K Moss (Liverpool), T Morris (Liverpool, captain).
INTERNATIONAL XV: W Hare (Leicester); A Swift (Swansea), P Dodge (Leicester), C Wodward (Leicester), P Squires (Harrogate); O Campbell (Old Belvedere), R McGrath (Wanderers); C Williams (Swansea), P Wheeler (Leicester), G Pryce (Pontypool), M Keane (Lansdowne), A Martin (Aberavon), J O'Driscoll (London Irish), F Slattery (Blackrock College, captain); J Squire (Pontypool). Replacements: P Blakeway (Gloucester), J Horton (Bath).

Richard Tuckwood, the Moseley Lock forward who was sent off against Richmond on March 20, has had a week added to his statutory month's suspension by North Midlands disciplinary committee.

TENNIS

Wimbledon unlikely to give Borg a bye

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent, Monte Carlo, April 6

The merger between the fun of tennis and the farce of its politics produced another eventful day at the Monte Carlo tournament. Some administrators — notably those concerned with negotiating the price the Grand Prix circuit may pay to ensure sympathetic neutrality of the Association of Tennis Professionals — emerged from hours of verbal crossfire with their sense of honour unimpaired. They knew that in their own way they were playing a game, and were confident that an honourable draw could be arranged.

As for the vexed question of whether or not Bjorn Borg will have to qualify for Wimbledon (assuming he enters) today's gossip centred around Air Chief Marshal Sir Brian Burnett, chairman of the Wimbledon committee. He talked to the Grand Prix organizers, he talked to Borg, and he listened. The Wimbledon committee will discuss his findings on April 15.

It seems reasonable to assume that Wimbledon will tell Borg he has to qualify; that 1967 fuss about 'open' competition may have exhausted Wimbledon's stock of rebellious initiatives.

Ivan Lendl had other views, however. After he had won 7-6, 6-2 against the dark and sturdy Pedro Rebolledo of Chile, who flicks his racket over the ball with wristy art and risky top spin on both flanks, Lendl proffered his opinion on the Borg debate. He said that Borg was old enough to make up his own mind and good enough to go straight into the main draw anywhere. People who told Borg what he should and should not do were acting like the parents of a five-year-old child, he felt. Guillermo Vilas later made the same point: "We are not children." Vilas pointed out that the rules failed to distinguish between players who refused to play the requisite minimum of Grand Prix tournaments and someone like Borg, who had taken five months off from competition of any kind.

Lendl incidentally is undecided about playing Wimbledon. He said he would wait to find out how tired he was after the French championships. The two championships were too close together, he claimed (there is only a fortnight's break) and he added that many players were uneasy about the way Wimbledon treated them and also felt that the facilities for practice were inadequate.

"Enjoying the tennis?" asked Adriano Panatta. He and Borg were having a day off, but the centre court programme featured three of the five leading men in the world rankings: Lendl, Vilas and Jose Luis Clerc, and the draw suggests that Vilas and Clerc are heading for a sporting microcosm of an Argentine civil war. Clerc saved five set points in coming back from 1-5 down in his second set with Gianni Ocleppo, who did not even get his racket to Clerc's last two services.

On the second show court Peter McNamara, champion of Germany, was beaten by a German, Peter Elter. The transition from indoor play to shale had been too fast for McNamara. On the same court Ilie Nastase conjured up much of his old magic before Balazs Taroczy nailed him, while Kevin Curren and Steve Denton saved three match points before beating Shlomo Glickstein and Steve Krulevitz in the doubles.

Throughout all this, the sun was shining and the gossip was inevitably superb. Yes, Adriano. We were enjoying the tennis.

HILTON HEAD ISLAND (South Carolina): Women's international tournament: first round: Duk Hee Lee (South Korea) beat V Wade (GB), 4-6, 6-4, 6-2; K Leand (US) beat J Podman (US), 6-1, 6-1; V Buzici (Romania) beat K Latham (US), 6-3, 6-1; B Nagelsen (US) beat A Hobbs (GB), 6-1, 6-2; Y Vermaak (SA) beat M Pinterova (Hungary), 7-5, 6-3; C Kohde (WG) beat S Mascarin (US), 6-4, 6-4; S Collins (US) beat H Strachonova (Czechoslovakia), 6-3, 6-3.

Sara is walking tall

By Lewine Mair

On a day when April showers caused havoc with the second day's programme at the junior hardcourt championship, sponsored by Prudential at Wimbledon, one of the most positive performances came from the tall and talented Sara Gomer, who defeated Christine Gillies, of Hampshire, 6-0, 6-1.

Comfortably over six feet, Miss Gomer has often in the past looked motr than a little self conscious about the court. Over the past few months, however, she has become very much more confident and in what could have been an awkward match against a promising competitor several years her junior, she showed nothing in the way of self doubt. Her services were often breathtakingly hard and her volleying particullarly impressive.

Julie Salmon, another of the more senior players and the fifth seed this week was never so happy about her tangle with the 14-year-old Joanne Louis. Miss Louis, who has been worrying even the best players in 18-and-under tennis for some time, won 6-[illegible], 6-2 after surviving a thrilling chase in the first set as Miss Salmon fought back from 2-5 to 4-[illegible].

Though Cliff Richards's game with Susan Barker received a deal of attention, one of the main talking points, as the children sat around in the restraint waiting for the rain to cease, was of the high price of food. Thirty-five pence for a Coco Cola; 30p for a still orange, and £1.07 for coffee and a round of cheese sandwiches.

For the first time in years, competitors at Junior Wimbledon have not been given lunch tickets, the reason being that the annual £75,000 given to the LTA by Prudential is having to stretch to the introduction of several new and eminently worthwhile age group tournaments.

It was because there is nowhere near the All England Club that they can eat cheaply, that the players yesterday drew up a petition asking for the reinstatement of the luncheon vouchers — a petition which, ultimately, they elected not to present. Geoff Paish, chairman of the tournament committee, yesterday evening described the cost of food at the All England Club as "a headache" and said that he would be taking the matter up at a meeting last night.

SINGLES: Boys: second round: A Sproule (Lancashire) beat P Treen (Avon), 6-1, 6-2; D Felgate (Essex) beat B Stephens (Essex), 6-1, 6-2; M Walker (North Wales) beat H Slater (Durham), 6-7, 6-2, 6-3; S Richards (South Wales) beat M Collins (Essex), 6-2, 2-6, 6-3; C Clarke (Buckinghamshire) beat J Goodall (Yorkshire), 7-6, 6-4; B Knapp (Gloucestershire) beat K Hodges (Buckinghamshire), 3-6, 7-5, 6-0. Girls: second round: S Gomer (Devon) beat C Gillies (Hampshire), 6-0, 6-1; A Brasher (Surrey) beat J Smith (Yorkshire), 6-1, 6-3; A Croft (Kent) beat C Bhagwandas (Middlesex), 6-3, 6-0.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Australia alter dates

By Keith Macklin

Alterations to the dates of the second and third international matches against Australia next winter have been forced by "an eleventh hour demand from Australia for an extra week in Britain," announced the public relations officer of the Rugby League, David Howes, yesterday. Howes added that the request had created a conflict with agreed television schedules, and new arrangements for coverage had been necessary.

The second international, originally scheduled for Sunday, November 14, will be played on the following Saturday at Wigan. The third international at Headingley will be played on Sunday, November 28 instead of on the previous day. The tourists will have just one club game between the second and third internationals: at Widnes of Tuesday, November 23.

Talks between Rochdale Hornets and Rochdale FC about possible ground sharing have been abandoned without a decision. Both clubs are in a dire financial position, and ground sharing was seen as an answer to the problem. However, no agreement has yet been reached on the football club using the Hornets' grounds, and Hornets will not consider moving to Spotland.

Mick Burke, the Widnes fullback who has been troubled for two months with a back injury, has not given up hope of regaining his place in the Widnes side to play Hull at Wembley on May 1.

Burke has been undergoing intensive treatment and hopes to be fit for a competitive game in a fortnight's time.

BOXING

Wallace lifts his sights

Keith Wallace, of Liverpool, who has just four professional fights behind him, would like to fight Charlie Magri in his fifth. But there is no chance of it happening.

Supporters of Wallace, who, like Magri, won two ABA flyweight titles and boxed for Britain in the Olympic Games, claim that he is ready for a crack at Magri's European crown. The red-haired 21-year-old gave them fresh cause for delight at Bloomsbury, London, on Monday night when he stopped Irish flyweight champion Jimmy Carson, of Belfast, in three rounds. Wallace's four fights to date have totalled less than ten rounds and again he looked the best recruit from the amateur ranks for years.

Carson came to fight but was comprehensively beaten, making his first mistake when he tried to outbox Wallace and found himself manoeuvred onto some ferocious left hooks in the first round. He landed a handsome right-hand punch or two in the second round, but was then cut down by Wallace's pure class and fierce two-handed hitting.

Wallace never missed an opening. He floored the Irishman for a count of eight in round three, this time with a right to show his versatility, and the fight was stopped one second from the end of the round.

The two are not likely to meet until Wallace is given an official nomination to challenge for the European title.

Conteh injury: John Conteh's hopes of a comeback have been dashed. The 30-year-old former world light-heavyweight champion went to a private clinic recently and tests found an injury at the base of his skull.

FOR THE RECORD

BOXING

LONDON: Flyweight (8 rounds): K Wallace (Prescot) beat J Carson (Belfast), ref 3rd rnd. Featherweight (8 rounds): J Duncan (Prescot) beat E Hood (Liverpool), pts. Welterweight (6 rounds): R Kelly (Acton) beat M Clemon (Catford), pts. Welterweight (6 rounds): J Andrews (Stepney) beat M Harrison (Acton) ref 3rd rnd. Light-welterweight (8 rounds): T [illegible] (Basildon) drew with L Christie (Coventry). Heavyweight (8 rounds): J Christie beat [illegible] Nee (Paddington), 1st rnd.

RACKETS

LONDON: Open Doubles championship: semi-final: R Boone and R A Crawley (holders) beat M K Gracy and M G M Smith, 15-11, 15-[illegible], 17-14, 17-16.

BASEBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Chicago Cubs 3, Cincinnati Reds 2.
AMERICAN LEAGUE: Baltimore Orioles 13, Kansas City Royals 5.

TENNIS

MONTE CARLO: Open championship: I Lendl (Czechoslovakia) beat P Rebolledo (Chile), 7—6, 6—2; T Smid (Czechoslovakia) beat M Martinez (Bolivia), 6—1, 6—3; J L Clerc (Argentina) beat G Ocleppo (Italy), 6—2, 7—5; P Elter (WG) beat P McNamara (Australia), 6—3, 6—2; Y Noah (France) beat R Frawley (Australia), 6—1, 6—2; B Taroczy (Hungary) beat I Nastase (Romania), 1—6, 6—4, 6—4; J Higueras (Spain) beat R Gehring (WG), 6—3, 6—3.

JOHANNESBURG: Grand Prix: second round (SA unless stated): D Rarr beat B Hewitt, 6-3, 6-4; T Moor (US) beat D Smith, 6-0, 6-1; H Pfister (US) beat C van Rensburg, 6-2, 6-3. Third round: R Chappell beat M Robertson, 3-6, 6-3, 6-2; D Visser beat C Dowdeswell (Zimbabwe), 7-6, 6-3; B Moir beat M Myburgh, 6-3, 5-7, 7-5.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Kickoff 7.30 unless stated.
EUROPEAN CUP: Semi-final: first leg: Aston Villa v Anderlecht (Belgium).
EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP: Semi-final: first leg: Tottenham H v Barcelona (Spain) (7.45).
EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: UNDER 21 Quarter final: second leg: England v Poland (at Upton Park).
FIRST DIVISION: Manchester United v Liverpool; Sunderland v Ipswich.
SECOND DIVISION: Chelsea v Cambridge United (7.45).
THIRD DIVISION: Oxford United v Swindon Town.
FOURTH DIVISION: Torquay United v Halifax Town.
FA YOUTH CUP: Semi-final: second leg: Wolverhampton Wanderers v Watford.
INTERNATIONAL U-17 TOURNAMENT: England v Portugal (at Cannes, 6.30).
SCOTTISH CUP: Semi-final replay: Aberdeen v St Mirren (at Dens Park, Dundee)
SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION: Morton v Dundee United; Partick Thistle v Airdrieonians.
SCOTTISH FIRST DIVISION: Dumbarton v Ayr; Falkirk v East Stirling.
SCOTTISH SECOND DIVISION: Berwick Rangers v Alloa Athletic; Stirling Albion v East Fife.
ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Maidstone v Gravesend; Scarborough v Frickley.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland division: Bedford v Cheltenham; Merthyr Tydfil v Cambridge City. Southern division: Fareham Town v Wealdstone.
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Tamworth v Burton Albion.
CENTRAL LEAGUE: Bury v Derby County; West Bromwich Albion v Sheffield Wednesday (7.00).
FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Orient v Swindon Town (2.00); Plymouth Argyle v Chelsea (2.30); West Ham United v Crystal Palace (2.0).
MIDLAND LEAGUE: Alfreton v App-Frod; Bridlington v Skegness (6.15); Brestoe v Shepshed (6.15).
GEOFFREY MILES MEMORIAL TROPHY: Herts FA v Suffolk FA (Hitchin Town FC).
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Second division: Barton Rovers v Molesey.
ATHENIAN LEAGUE: Edgware v [illegible].
RUGBY UNION: Bath v South Wales Police (7.15); Cross Keys v [illegible]; Glamorgan Wanderers v Aber[illegible]; Pontypridd v Llanelli (7.0); [illegible] v Birmingham (6.15); Coventry v [illegible] (7.15); Thames Valley Police v [illegible] Police (2.30); Bristol v Newbridge.
RUGBY LEAGUE: First division: [illegible] Rovers v Wakefield Trinity; [illegible]; Leeds v Widnes.

MONDAY'S RESULTS

FOURTH DIVISION: Mansfield (0) 0 [illegible] York City (1) 2 [illegible] 2,398
ALLIANCE LEAGUE: Altrincham 5, Worcester City 3.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Cup Final, first leg: Gloucester 0, Wealdstone 1. Midland division: Enderby 1, Taunton 0; Nuneaton 4, Merthyr Tydfil 1. Southern division: Crawley [illegible], Dunstable 2, Gosport 2, Chelmsford [illegible]; Salisbury 3, Folkestone 1.
Isthmian League: Premier Division: Barking 5, Hendon 0; Leytonstone 0, Tooting and Mitcham 0; Harrow Borough 0, Leatherhead 0.
RUGBY UNION: Newbridge 5, Maesteg 9.

SKIING CONDITIONS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Andermatt	120	370	Good	Spring	Fair	Fine	15
Spring skiing all slopes							
Anzere	80	160	Good	Heavy	Fair	Thaw	10
Good skiing (am) slush (pm)							
Arosa	135	170	Good	Spring	Good	Cloud	4
Spring snow on good base							
Courmayeur	145	270	—	—	—	Sun	5
Slush on lower slopes							
Grindelwald	10	140	Fair	Heavy	Poor	Fine	12
Worn patches on lower slopes							
Isola 2000	135	160	Fair	Spring	Fair	Thaw	9
Pistes holding up well							
La Plagne	170	380	Good	Heavy	Good	Cloud	7
Good skiing on spring snow							
St Anton	50	260	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	8
Good spring skiing							
Val d'Isere	125	245	Slushy	Good	Fine	—	
Good in all places							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes.

SCOTLAND: Cairngorm: Main runs: all complete. Spring snow. Lower slopes: a few runs complete. Vertical runs: 1,000 feet. Access roads: clear. Snow level: 2,000 feet. Glenshee: Main runs and lower slopes: all complete. Wet snow. Vertical runs: 1,200 feet. Access roads: clear. Snow level: 2,200 feet. Lecht: Main runs: only one, high level, [illegible] complete, all others broken. Wet snow. Lower slopes: limited nursery areas. Vertical runs: 700 feet. Access roads: clear. Snow [illegible] 2,000 feet.

SQUASH RACKETS

Jahangir is within a match of his destiny

Jahangir Khan, the world champion who appears destined to win the British Open championships, sponsored by Audi, at Bromley for the first time tomorrow, moved within one match of doing so yesterday. He beat his Pakistani countryman Qamar Zaman, the 1975 champion who is probably his closest rival now that injury has forced the holder Geoff Hunt into a spectator's seat in the circle.

The score was 9-5, 9-5, 9-1. Mohibullah Khan, the unrelated Pakistani who took fifteen points from Jahangir in the first round, has so far been his most successful opponent. Zaman's tally of 11 was equalled by Ross Norman, the New Zealander, and the meagre total he has conceded in five matches so far has been 52 points. Statistics in this case tell no lies but indicate clearly how far the 18-year-old has gone ahead of field he only entered two years ago when he turned professional.

Furthermore, Jahangir beat Zaman, who was playing not much less than at his best, and with a great deal more resolution than he sometimes shows. The match lasted 71 minutes and the second game, in which Zaman led 5-3 and appeared to be harrying Jahangir, took 37.

"Zaman tried to be patient. In fact, he played rather differently from usual," Hunt said. Hunt watched with a fidgetty feeling the men who have been his greatest rivals in recent years.

The match took a sudden turn at 5-4 in the second game after Jahangir had been struck on the nose by Zaman's racket and left the court for two minutes, mopping his face with his shirt. On resumption Zaman tried to take advantage of a cooler ball by playing a succession of drop shots and volleys cut short, but the ploy failed. In six minutes more, Jahangir went 2-0 up, concluding the second game when he fell over in a corner, got up, and amazingly played on to win the rally. The third game was a formality.

It had, however, been a match full of entertaining squash, unlike the unpleasant encounter that preceded it in which Vicki Cardwell, the women's holder, reached the final 9-2, 10-8, 9-0 at the expense of Angela Smith, the England No. 2. Not for the first time these two were involved in a whole series of distasteful arguments between each other and between themselves and officials.

Mrs Cardwell once berated the marker for mispronouncing her name. Miss Smith once asked for a let and then said: "Good shot" and both players worked themselves up into such a state that it was almost impossible for them to play properly.

Mrs Cardwell is currently banned for playing for Australia, and Miss Smith was once left out of a British tour of Australia after a previous contretemps with Mrs Cardwell.

Yorkshire ban stays

Yorkshire Cricket Club members have voted overwhelmingly in favour of the policy of using only players born in the county. The failure to win any of the four chief competitions since the 1960s led to a referendum among members, who were asked: "Do you wish to change the present policy of playing only Yorkshire-born cricketers?" Of the 5,032 total votes cast, 4,493 answered "No", 137 "Yes" and there were two abstentions. No less than 241 voters threatened to resign their membership if there was any change.

HOCKEY

England bid for repeat

By Sydney Friskin

England and Ireland, after winning both their matches at sunny Amerystwyth yesterday, will meet today to decide the home counties schoolboys championships in the under-19 category. The same two teams came through last year in London where England won.

But yesterday's play was dominated by England, who are coached by Bernie Cotton, a former England and Great Britain captain. They scored a total of 16 goals in two matches, beating Scotland 11-2 in the morning and Wales 5-1 in the afternoon.

Ireland, who arrived here at 4am yesterday, because of engine trouble on the ferry, beat Wales 3-0 and later tore into a crumbling Scottish defence to win 6-1.

Technically England were the best of the four sides but it looked as if they had run into a spot of trouble against Wales, who began the afternoon match in great style with Palmer hitting a post and going almost as near with his next shot. But England soon exposed the limitations of the Welsh defence and led 2-1 at half-time, with Beechener and Soma Singh from a penalty stroke scoring for England and Sullivan for Wales, England having led 2-0.

After the interval there was only one team in the picture and England increased their lead through Rothwell from a penalty stroke, Skinner and Swayne from a short corner.

Horton, Empey and McDowell scored for Ireland against Wales.

They dominated the second-half of their match against Scotland, their scorers being Megaw, McDowell, Smyrl, Malcolmson (2) and Boyce, who also plays for Ireland at Rugby at schoolboy level.

EQUESTRIANISM

Victory to Honey

Jayne Honey and The Preacher defied the holding ground to put up the fastest cross-country round and win the open/intermediate class at Ermington Horse Trials yesterday. Mary Thomson finished second on Humphrey and Clarissa Strachan, who won an advance class at Downlands two weeks ago and was second in the other, took third placing with her six-year-old, Delphy Dazzle.

The Preacher is an eight-year-old by Wily Trout. He gave a tremendous performance on an undulating course

All of the novice sections were won by the horse with the fastest time across country. Captain Martin Whitely, chairman of the selectors, remarked that he only saw about three horses all day, from an enry of 146, who did not look like potential international horses.

The majority of entries are of course by premium stallions of the Hunters' Improvement Society. The late Lord Mildmay's estate at Flete is renowned for its course but Captain and Mrs Bill Peek, who inaugurated this event some 12 years ago and have organized it ever since, have had to abandon two meetings in recent years due to the wet weather. On Monday night the rain pelted down for some eight hours, but the programme was not curtailed and it finished remarkably well to time.

Midland Bank Open Intermediate Class: 1, R Bowes's Sea Creature (Miss J Honey), 58; 2, Miss M Thomson's Humphrey, 68; 3, Team Wadham Stringer, Delphy Dazzle, 70. Novice Section I: 1, Miss L Machintosh's Spring Salmon, 46; 2, Miss L Anderson's Sundown II (R Lucas), 49; 3, Miss J Roper's Laverock, 51. Section II: 1, D Baker's Dunster (42); 2, Mrs P Parker's Gulliver, 48; 3, Miss H Harrison's Zannor, 48. Section III: 1, East Light Limited's Ben Brady (Miss C Lewis), 36; 2, Lanz Hotels Limited's Spartangle (Miss R Hunt), 39; 3, John D Wood Estate Agents' Zion (Miss P Nash), 84.

GOLF

Masters greens may be like lightning

From John Hopkins, Augusta, Georgia, April 6

From the tops of the tallest pines to the boxes of matches that are laid on every table in the Augusta National Golf Club the predominant colour at the Masters torunament is green. Even the handles of the umbrellas are green. But today there was almost as much blue around as the temperature stuck at 50°F, and a cutting wind rattled the magnolias and caused the players to wrap up well and blow into their hands as often as they might on a spring day at Troon, for example.

But at least they were able to get on to the famous, par 72 course. Yesterday torrential rain sent the early birds such as Greg Morman, Severiano Ballesteros and Bernhard Langer scurrying for the clubhouse and the course was closed. So the 46th Masters, which begins on Thursday, could hardly be more different from last year's, when Tom Watson won his second green jacket in four days of continuous sunshine.

What will not be so different this year is the state of the greens. In 1980 the notorious and often sloping greens were reseeded with bent grass, and last year they were fast. This year the signs are they are going to be like lightning.

Johnny Miller was mortified in practice when a pitch of his landed near the back of the green, some 100ft from the flag. If the wind continues and there is no more rain the greens could get so dry and crackly that to walk on them could be, as one competitor remarked years ago, "like walking on cellophane paper". Significantly, Watson spent some time today practising four to six-foot putts, which here can break as much as 18in.



Johnny Miller: mortified

A windswept Arnold Palmer, trailing hordes of supporters, arrived just as Tom Kite (one of this year's most consistent golfers), Langer and Jim Simons were driving into the teeth of the wind on the first hole. Langer's putting has been frightful and he had two new putters with him as he changed into his golf shoes.

● A record £160,000 will be at stake on Scotland's circuit this season, an increase of £37,000 over last year. The biggest boom is in one-day pro-am events; the region secretary, Sandy Jones, said: "This particular section of the prize fund has risen from £67,000 to £102,000".

PRINCIPAL TOURNAMENTS: May 4-6: Northern open, Cruden Bay (£10,000). August 2-4: Skol tournament, Cowglen (£10,000). Scottish PGA championship, Dalmahoy (£22,000).

RACING: LONG-DISTANCE HURDLING AT ASCOT/CLASSIC TRIALS AT MAISONS-LAFFITTE/ TRAINERS SERIES CONTINUED

Gaye Chance can step up again

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

Amid the general euphoria which surrounded the Grand National as a whole and Dick Saunders's achievements on Grittar in particular, insufficient credit was given to another man who made an important contribution during the three-day meeting. I refer to Fulke Walwyn.

After the National Hunt festival had finished at Cheltenham, Michael Dickinson was praised, and rightly so, for taking just four horses there and returning home with three victories and a second.

Walwyn's record at Aintree last week was equally laudable. He took five runners north from his home in Upper Lambourn and had three winners, a third and a fourth. There could be no greater proof than that of his lasting skill which has enriched National Hunt racing in this country for more than 40 years.

Another fine example is the improvement that he has wrought in Crimson Embers this season. Following successive victories over three miles at Ascot in February, Walwyn took Crimson Embers to Cheltenham last month and won the Waterford Crystal Stayers Hurdle.

Now he returns to Ascot to try to add the Keith Prowse long-distance hurdle to his steadily increasing list of achievements. Crimson Embers has beaten Hill of Slane, one of his rivals this afternoon, three times already this season and I can find no reason why he should not do so again.

A far greater danger surely is Gaye Chance, who finished fifth in the Champion Hurdle itself. Indeed there are grounds for thinking that he will reap the benefit from a return to longer distances. Gaye Chance has won over two and a half miles and three miles in his time, so he will not be bothered in the slightest by today's trip.

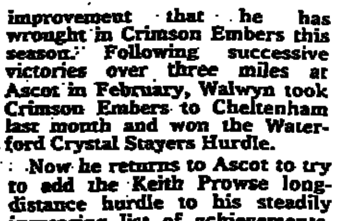
Holemoor Star, who finished sixth in the Champion, returns to the fray for the Kestrel Hurdle, but the handicapper has had sufficient time in which to reassess him after his victory in the Imperial Cup.

Now I cannot help wondering whether even he will manage to give 15lb to Path of Peace, whose strong late flourish landed him the County Handicap Hurdle on the last day of Cheltenham.

Venture to Cognac, a blatant disappointment in the Gold Cup, in which he could finish only seventh, has a chance to atone in the Peregine Handicap Steeplechase, in which he will be ridden for the first time by John Francome, simply because his regular ally, Oliver Sherwood, is currently on the sidelines recovering from a broken collarbone.

Francome also has a good chance of winning the Hen Harrier Novices Hurdle on Young Kusky, who impressed me as a budding jumper when I saw him run in his first hurdle race in this country at Kempton at the beginning of February. In the meantime he has won easily at Huntingdon.

Lavengro (2.0) could be a third winner for Fred Winter at Ascot this afternoon. Winter can only have been delighted with the way that he put Roadhead and Bachelor's Hall to rout at Nottingham.



Gaye Chance: may benefit from a return to longer distances.

Worcester doubt

Heavy rain has endangered today's National Hunt meeting at Worcester. Hugo Bevan, the clerk of the course, said: "There has been continuous rain today and more is forecast overnight. Any more heavy falls would put the meeting in jeopardy. The going is soft." There will be an inspection at 7.30 this morning.

O'Gorman puts his faith in Susarma

Bill O'Gorman has started 1982 on a high note, having saddled three winners from only seven runners. Brondesbury showed himself to be a useful two-year-old when spreadeagling his field in the Brocklesby Stakes at Doncaster, Michael Seely writes.

This Welsh Saint colt is the one they all have to beat in the early months of the season and will have his next outing at Newmarket's Craven meeting.

That useful sprinter, Sayaaf, also showed himself to be in fine form when beating Great Eastern at Doncaster. Sayaaf was to have run in this afternoon's Field Marshal Stakes at Haydock, but is being kept in reserve to serve on April 17.

Today O'Gorman is relying on Susarma, who finished fourth to New Embassy at Doncaster but now reopposes his conqueror on 21lb better terms.

Lucky Hunter and Chellaston Park will both take some beating. Last season Lucky Hunter was only just touched off by Cajun in the Middle Park Stakes.

Chellaston Park was an admirably consistent filly for Bruce Hobbs last season. From nine starts he won five times and finished second on the other four occasions.

Hobbs has also started the season in sparkling form. His first three runners all won and Jacquinta was only just beaten by Tawfiq at Nottingham on Monday. This is an open race. Obviously both Lucky Hunter and Chellaston Park have the ability to win it.

But I shall take a chance on the proven fitness of Susarma. "He's a lovely old horse and I use him as my hack at home," said O'Gorman. "And Susarma has been working really well recently.

Boutin nails his classic colours to the mast

From Desmond Stoneham
Paris, April 6

Francois Boutin was all smiles at Maisons-Laffitte this afternoon, after two of his stable proved themselves serious candidates for the early English classics.

Freddie Head sat motionless on Zino, who made most of the running and took the Prix Djebel by an effortless six lengths. Gerald Oldham's colt will now contest the 2,000 Guineas at Newmarket and is sure to stretch his rivals.

"Zino won the Djebel by six lengths — the same as Nureyev". Boutin said after the race. The unfortunate Nureyev, of course, went on to win the 2,000 Guineas only to be disqualified by the English stewards. Head, who will ride Zino at Newmarket, was also complimentary about the colt. "Zino felt pretty good today", he commented.

Lester Piggott's remarks after dismounting from Play It Safe, who won the Prix Imprudence by three lengths, were even warmer: "I couldn't have asked for more". Boutin added: "She's not fully wound up and still in her winter coat".

Play It Safe led from start to finish and hardly exerted herself to beat Balance and Albala. Piggott could be on board this one in the 1,000 Guineas, but that will depend on whether he is claimed by Henry Cecil.

In Piggott's absence, the 20-year-old crack American, Cash Assmusen, could take the ride. Assmusen has now apparently signed a contract with Stavros Niarchos, the Greek shipping magnate, so he could pick up the spare Boutin rides. Niarchos's best filly, River Lady, was ridden at work by Piggott at Chantilly this morning. She will run in the Prix de la Grotte and the Poule d'Essai des Pouliches, the French 1,000 Guineas.

□ Pollardstown, beaten half a length by Daring Run in Saturday's Sun Templegate Hurdle at Liverpool, joins Broadsword, who fell at the last, in the line-up for the Welsh Champion Hurdle at Chepstow on Easter Monday.

Seeking another Shergar

Michael Stoute is one of our most successful trainers. At the age of 35 he had he most successful season of his career in 1981, saddling 97 winners and winning just under £870,000 in prize money at home and abroad. The champion trainer's chief standard bearer was Shergar, whose five victories as a three-year-old for the Aga Khan included triumph in the Irish and Epsom Derbies and the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes.

Marwell and Hard Fought were the other main contributers to this total. That tough little filly Marwell carried Edmund Loder's colours to five victories. She won three Group One races and paid a tribute both to her own toughness of constitution and to her trainer's skill when beating Sharpo in the Prix de l'Abbaye in October at the end of a long and busy season.

Marwell finished third to Fairy Footsteps in the 1,000 Guineas. The trainer had previously had other near misses in the first of the fillies' classics with Fair Salinia and Our Home. This time he is hoping there will be no mistake with Circus Ring.

Owned and bred by Snailwell Stud, Circus Ring was unbeaten on her three appearances as a two-year-old. And the style of her victory in the Princess Margaret Stakes at Ascot on Diamond Day left watchers in no doubt about her exceptional merit as she sprinted 10 lengths clear of her rivals in the last furlong. Circus Ring's final win came in the Lowther Stakes at York in August. She was lame in September, having trouble with her knees and was unable to meet her engagement in the Cheveley Park Stakes.

Consequently Circus Ring was confined to her stable for most of the winter. "She responded well to treatment and I am very pleased with her", said the trainer yesterday. The filly has been cantering since the beginning of February and has now been in fast work for just under a fortnight.



Stoute: toast of '81

Circus Ring's first appearance of the season will be in the big race itself at Newmarket on April 29. The trainer has two other useful fillies in Top Hope and Vaigly Star. Top Hope quickened in good style when meeting Last Feather in the Rockfell Stakes at Newmarket in October. However, Bob Cowell's High Top filly has been slow to come to hand and will not be seen in action until May.

Either the Fred Darling Stakes at Newbury or the Neil Gwyn Stakes at Newmarket will be the first target for Vaigly Great's half sister, Vaigly Star. This filly has wintered exceptionally well, but despite the fact that she is sired by Star Appeal there must be a doubt whether she will stay a mile. Time alone will tell.

Like most top trainers Stoute is a realist. And judged on what they accomplished last season his three-year-old colts need to improve if they are to reach classic standards. The best on public form is Wattlefield, who finished a close third to Cajun in the Middle Park Stakes. Wattlefield will take on Norwich, Simply Great and Silver Hawk in the Craven Stakes at Newmarket next week.

Noble Gift is a good looking colt by Vaigly Noble. He was only narrowly beaten by the subsequent William Hill Futurity Stakes winner Count Pahlen at Newmarket and also finished runner-up to Ivanof in the Houghton Stakes. Noble Gift goes for a maiden race at Newbury before his future programme is decided. Three other maidens to follow are Electric, Bali Dancer and Toujours Vert.

Stoute has only eight older horses, including The Quiet Bidder, who won the Cork and Orrey Stakes at Royal Ascot last season when trained by Reg Hollinshead. Centurion is still in training. Grundy's full brother was rather disappointing last season after winning the Blue Riband Trial Stakes at Epsom. However the four-year-old looks in robust condition

It is early days to be talking about two-year-olds, but on paper Stoute has a powerful team. The most expensive is Shareef Dancer, who cost Maktoum 3.3m dollars as a yearling at Keenland.

The trainer says that he is pleased with the way that two-year-olds have been shaping. Henry's Secret, Widaad and Big Again are three names to be watching out for in the not too distant future.

Michael Seely

Carson and Aintree singing in the rain

Only 437 paying customers braved the steady rain at Nottingham yesterday, but followers of Willie Carson had a sunny day. Carson replied to Steve Cauthen's treble on Monday with an 84-1 double on Graphics Solar and Come On The Blues. The latter may now run in the Tote European Free Handicap at Newmarket next Wednesday.

The "Save The Grand National" fund benefitted by £200 from Pat Rohan's first winner of the season, Glory Bird, who took the Tavern Selling Hnadicap by four lengths from Dromoland Castle and had to suvive a stewards' inquiy.

Glory Bird only collected a prize of £516 but, said Rohan, "we had a nice bet on him and retained him without a bid." As the trainer and his partners in the cold thought they might have had to go to £200 each to buy in Glory Bid, they decided to give £200 of the prize money to the Aintree fund.

Denys Smith was top of the form with the undergraduates from Newcastle University when he saddled his first winner of the season yesterday at the Scottish course, the aptly named Student Venture. The winner, who runs in Smith's colours, is owned jointly with 11 undergraduates and cost a mere 600 guineas as a yearling.

Ascot NH

Tote Double: 3.5 and 4.10. Treble: 2.35, 3.35 and 4.40

[Television (BBC2) 2.35, 3.05, 3.35 and 4.10]

2.00 MERLIN HUNTER CHASE (Amateurs: £2,171: 3m) (12 runners)

101 114f DANCING BRIG (C,D) Clay 11-12-1 ...... Mr Clay 7
104 2131 MR MELLORS (D) Mrs Miller ...... Mrs Gibbon
105 11-1f OTTERY NEWS Carter 9-12-1 ...... Mr Wilson
108 0-211 THE DRUNKEN DUCK Munro-Wilson 9-12-1 ...... Mr Munro-Wilson 4
109 0-431 BACHELOR'S HALL (B) P Harris 12-11-11 ...... Mr Fowler
112 004-1 LAVENGRO F Winter 9-11-11 ...... Mr Wilkinson 7
113 1-2 MOON STEP Weldon 10-11-11 ...... Miss Halswell 7
115 p/214 THE FRODDLER Swinbank 10-11-11 ...... DOUBTFUL
117 ppf0/ LYTHAM Miss Ennis 10-11-7 ...... —
118 -pupf MASTER NIBBLE Holmes 7-11-7 ...... Mr Holmes
119 3/33- PURDO Gaselee 11-11-7 ...... Mr N Smith 7
121 20-p0 BIG BEN R Fox 8-11-7 ...... Mr Cantillon 7

9-4 The Drunken Duck, 11-4 Mr Mellors, 4 Bachelor's Hall, 11-2 Lavengro, 8 Dancing Brig, 10 Moon Step, 12 Ottery News, 20 others.

2.35 KESTREL HURDLE (Limited handicap: £3,817: 2m) (7)

201 1110 HOLEMOOR STAR (D) Miss Morris 5-11-10 ...... O'Halloran
204 0100 MR MOONRAKER (D) Miss Morris 5-10-11 ...... DOUBTFUL
206 0-021 PATH OF PEACE (D) Thornton 6-10-9 (4 ex) ...... O'Neill
207 0f1D WALNUT WONDER (C,D) Elsworth 7-10-8 ...... J Davies
208 2-p00 ESPARTO (D) McCourt 7-10-7 ...... McCourt 7
209 122f RUN HARD (C,D) Turnell 7-10-7 ...... Steve Knight
214 0020 GLASGOW CENTRAL Morgan 5-10-7 ...... Rowe

6-4 Path of Peace, 9-4 Holemoor Star, 4 Walnut Wonder, 11-2 Run Hard, 16 others.

FORM: Holemoor Star (12-0), ev ch at sixth, wkd, 6th, btn 28l to For Action (level) in Champ Hdle. 14 ran. Cheltenham, March 16, 2m, heavy. Previously (11-7), won easily, 1½l, 4l from Knighthood (Rec 9lb) and Fledge (rec 14lb). 7 ran, Kempton, March 13, 2m, heavy. Path of Peace (10-6) held up, led last, all out, won hd, hd. From Prince of Bermuda (gave 4lb) and Roadway (rec 6lb) with Knighthood (gave 4lb) 1½l away 4th and Mr Moonraker (gave 12lb) and Walnut Wonder (gave 6lb) out of first nine. 23 ran. Cheltenham, March 18, 2m, heavy. Previously (10-11) 2nd, btn ½l to Holemoor Star (gave 10lb). 9 ran. Doncaster, March 1, 2m 150yds, good.
SELECTION: PATH OF PEACE.

3.5 PEREGRINE CHASE (Handicap: £5,892: 2½m) (5)

301 2-110 VENTURE TO COGNAC (C,D) F Winter 9-11-10 ...... Francome
306 2144 DON'T FORGET (D) Hanson 8-10-6 ...... W Smith
307 0402 SHADY DEAL (D) Gifford 9-10-3 ...... Rowe
311 204p SNOWSHILL SAILOR (C,D) Turnell 10-10-0 ...... Turnell
313 0104 GREENWAYS (B,C,D) A Jarvis 7-10-0 ...... Scudamore

4-6 Venture to Cognac, 4 Greenways, 6 Shady Deal, 8 Don't Forget, 12 Snowshill Sailor.

4.10 GOLDEN EAGLE CHASE (Novices: £4,954: 2½m) (9)

502 034u BALLYGORE W A Stephenson 8-11-3 ...... —
504 0404 COBBLERS CASTLE Gifford 6-11-3 ...... Rowe
506 2f4p CROZURRY (B) Forster 7-11-3 ...... Francome
508 p3p0 LANGLEY GREEN Armytage 8-11-3 ...... Mr P Webber
509 f2f3 LAST ARGUMENT Gaselee 8-11-3 ...... Linley
510 42/03 LLOYDSMAN F Walwyn 9-11-3 ...... Mooney
511 f2f NEW LYRIC Nicholson 7-11-3 ...... Scudamore
513 2233 TEN BEARS T M Jones 6-11-3 ...... Madgwick
515 0f22 REMAINDER IMP Turnell 5-10-12 ...... Turnell

11-4 Last Argument, 7-2 Cobblers Castle, 9-2 New Lyric, 6 Ten Bears, 8 Ballygore, 10 Remainder Imp, 12 Crozurry, 16 others.

Selection: LAST ARGUMENT

4.40 HEN HARRIER HURDLE (Novices: £2,596: 2½m) (20)

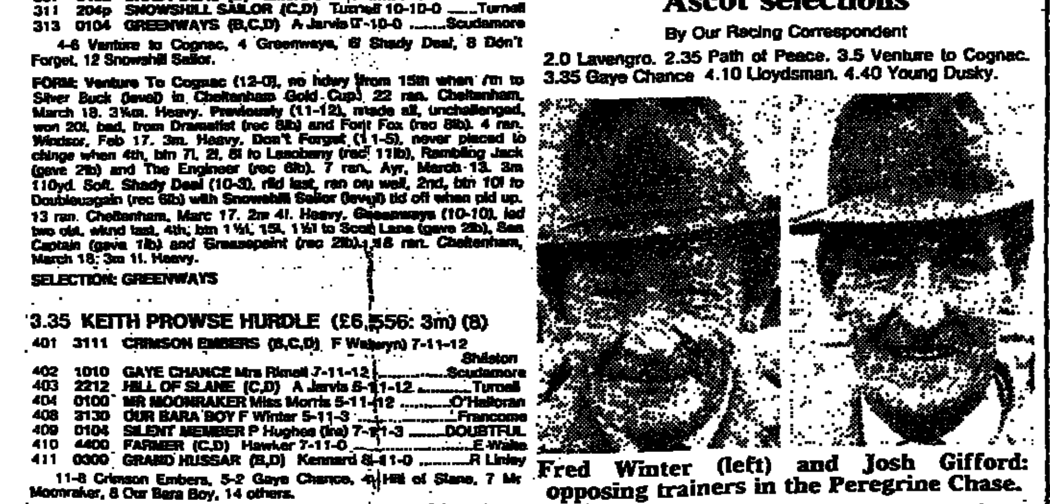
623 0-000 KING RAGAPAN P M Taylor 5-11-7 ...... McKevitt 7
624 2210 LAUREPPA Gaselee 5-11-7 ...... Linley
626 0321 PROSPERPINE P M Taylor 5-11-7 ...... Keightley
629 1000 RIGHT REGENT Elsworth 4-11-6 ...... J Davies 7
631 2 SOMMELIER Wates 4-11-0 ...... Rowe

3 Baron Palles, 7-2 Barrier Reef, 5 Master Andrew, 6 Hans Brinker, 7 Rizzio, 8 Young Dusky, 10 Pelaro, 12 Laureppa, 20 others.

Ascot selections

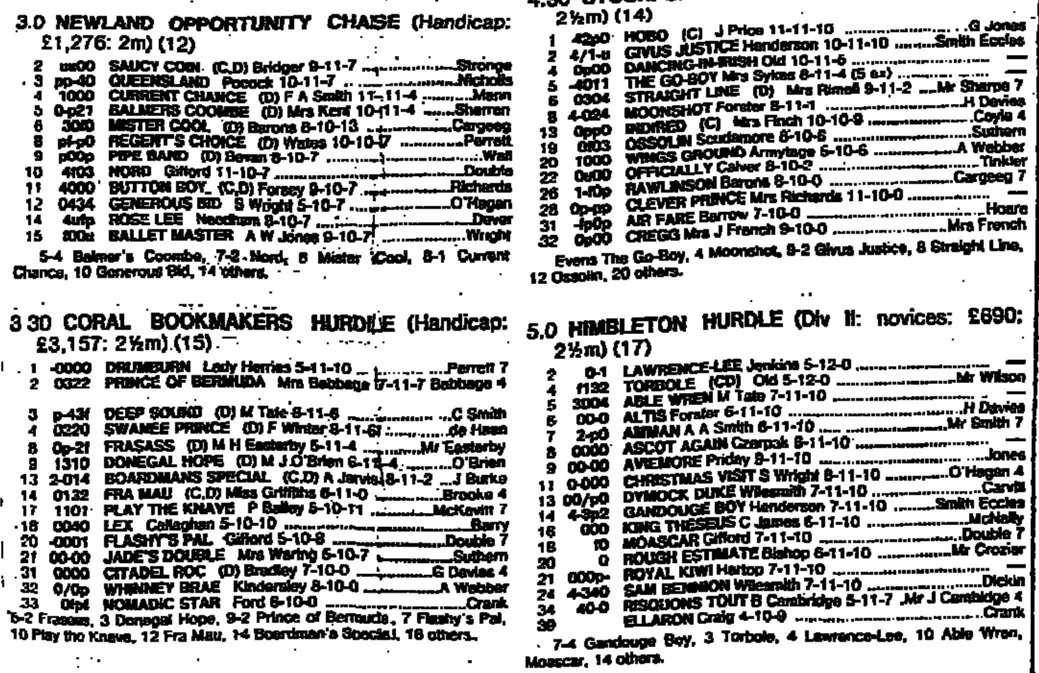
By Our Racing Correspondent

2.0 Lavengro. 2.35 Path of Peace. 3.5 Venture to Cognac. 3.35 Gaye Chance 4.10 Lloydsman. 4.40 Young Dusky.



Fred Winter (left) and Josh Gifford: opposing trainers in the Peregrine Chase.

Worcester NH



8 0000 ASCOT AGAIN Czerpak 8-11-10 ...... —
9 00-00 AVIEMORE Priday 8-11-10 ...... Jones
11 0-000 CHRISTMAS VISIT S Wright 8-11-10 ...... O'Hagan 4
13 00/p0 DYMOCK DUKE Wilesmith 7-11-10 ...... Carvill
14 4-3p2 GANDOUGE BOY Henderson 7-11-10 ...... Smith Eccles
16 000 KING THESEUS C James 6-11-10 ...... McNally
18 f0 MOASCAR Gifford 7-11-10 ...... Double 7
20 0 ROUGH ESTIMATE Bishop 6-11-10 ...... Mr Crozier
21 000p- ROYAL KIWI Hartop 7-11-10 ...... —
24 4-340 SAM BENSON Wilesmith 7-11-10 ...... Dickin
34 40-0 RISQUONS TOUT B Cambridge 5-11-7 ...... Mr J Cambridge 4
39 ELLARON Craig 4-10-9 ...... Crank

7-4 Gandouge Boy, 3 Torbole, 4 Lawrence-Lee, 10 Able Wren, Moascar, 14 others.

Worcester selections

2.30 Misty Sky. 3.0 Mister Cool. 3.30 Donegal Hope. 4.0 Lord Dawson. 4.30 Moonshot. 5.0 Torbole.

Haydock Park

Tote double: 3.15 and 4.45. Treble: 2:45, 3.45 and 4.45

2.15 MORNINGTON CANNON STAKES (2-y-o maiden fillies: £1,564: 5f) (5 runners)

2 JENDOR (Mrs J Regler) R Hannon 8-11 ...... P Cook 5
3 4 LA DI DA (C McGhie) J FitzGerald 8-11 ...... — 2
5 QUEENS GLORY (C Heard) C Spares 8-11 ...... N Day 3 1
7 SUTTY'S GIRL (Mrs L Marton) K Stone 8-11 ...... J Skilling 3
8 SUZY MARIE (R Butters) R Hollinshead 8-11 ...... S Parks 4

11-10 La Di Da, 3 Jendor, 5 Queens Glory, 7 Suzy Marie, 10 Sutty's Girl.

3.45 FIELD MARSHAL STAKES (£3,629: 5f)

1 014000- COOLEEN JACK (D) (J McDonogh) E O'Grady
4 3/000-4 SUSARMA (D) (Mrs E O'Gorman) W O'Gorman
6 02402-4 LUCKY HUNTER (D) (R Khan) C Brittain
7 121122- CHELLASTON PARK (D) (Mrs C Smeller)
9 021420- SINGING SAILOR (D) (Mrs C Carroll)

7-4 Lucky Hunter, 1-4 Chellaston Park, 4 Cooleen Jack

4.15 NAT FLATMAN STAKES (Maidens: £1,744: 1m 4f) (14)

1 030020- CAVALIER SERVENTE (R Beardsworth) P Wigham 4-9-6 ...... M Wigham 9
2 EMMAR (Mrs E Holmes) D Elsworth 4-9-6 ...... R Fox 6
3 GILDED CHIEF (Mrs M Paylon) B McMahon 5-9-6 ...... T Ives 12
4 00- HANUMAN (S Richards) C Austin 4-9-6 ...... P Young 7
5 00- HAWKBARROW (E Kirtland) D Gandolfo 4-9-6 ...... J Reid 13
7 0/0- PILTON (Berkeley House Racing) T Robson 4-9-6 ...... W Wharton 8
9 00/300- THE IRISH RHINE (D Wilson) D Wilson 4-9-6 ...... E Johnson 2
10 00040- DANCING KATE (A T Arnold Steel) A Arnold 7-9-3 ...... B Hayes 7 4
11 HIGH AFFAIR (Mrs P Badger) J Spearing 4-9-3 ...... P Robinson 11
12 00- JENNY LOU (Fred Walker and Son Ltd) I Vickers 4-9-3 ...... D Nicholls 3
13 CASHEL PRINCE (B Combs II) G Harwood 3-8-0 ...... A Clark 5 1
14 20000-3 MERCIA SOUND (A White) R Hollinshead 3-8-0 ...... Paul Eddery 5 10
15 0-3 ORMOLU (K Abdulla) W Elsey 3-8-0 ...... M L Thomas 5
16 000- WIPPIN CRUST (D Major) I Walker 3-8-0 ...... P Colquhoun 14

9-4 Ormolu, 5-2 Mercia Sound, 4 Cashel Prince, 11-2 Cavalier Servente, 6 The Irish Rhine, 8 others.

4.45 JOHNNY OSBORNE (3-y-o handicap: £2,460: 6f) (8)

2 01300- STARLUST (J Hind) S Norton 9-5 ...... J Lowe 7
3 331110- NAGALIA (A Craggs) K Stone 9-0 ...... P Marrin 7 5
4 01020-0 ROMAN QUEST (D) (C H Newton Ltd) T Fairhurst 8-11 ...... M Beecroft 7 1
5 02001- HAZIM (Hamdan Al-Maktoum) Thomson Jones 8-11 ...... P Cook 3
8 30000-2 VIDEO KING (Mrs G Maloney) C Brittain 7-12 ...... W Carson 4
9 000- THIJSSEN (Mrs J Murrell) W O'Gorman 7-10 ...... M L Thomas 8
10 40000-0 ULTRASONIC (K Fischer) R Hollinshead 7-9 ...... B Jones 5 2
12 000- GAY TROUBADOUR (Mrs D Marsh) J Bethell 7-7 ...... B Crossley 3 6

7-4 Nagalia, 11-4 Video King, 5 Starlust, 8 Roman Quest, 10 others.

Hamilton Park

2.15 TILLIETUDLEM STAKES (2-y-o: selling; £752: 5f) (2 runners)

3 FIZZICAL (J Young) A Young 8-8 ...... G Duffield 1
5 RED SKY ROSE (A Piersall) R Williams 8-8 ...... R Cochrane 2

2-7 Red Sky Rose, 3 Fizzical.

2.45 DOLPHINTON STAKES (2-y-o maiden fillies; £792: 5f) (5)

1 CRIMSON CARGO (Mrs N Napier) E Weymes 8-11 ...... G Duffield 3
2 DREAM AGAIN (A Duffield) A Jarvis 8-11 ...... T Jarvis 7 2
4 KATIE BOURNE (P Finn) E Carter 8-11 ...... C Dwyer 1
6 LINANHOT (R Rowbottom) A Young 8-11 ...... S Webster 4
8 SUPER SIOUX (B Atkinson) 8-11 ...... L Charnock 5

12 0/0043- TULA FANCY (Mrs I Gibson) J S Wilson 4-8-0 ...... N Carlisle 5 11
13 /0040-0 BADSWORTH GIRL (B) (G Toft) G Toft 4-8-11 ...... K Darley 8
14 0/00-0 KENTUCKY (G Reed) C Thornton 4-8-11 ...... G Duffield 4
15 002/00- MISS GENEROUS (M Llewellyn) M Camacho 5-8-11 ...... O Gray 3

2 Selborne Record, 7-2 Raise a Hand, 9-2 Point North, 6 Latest Love, 10 Tula Fancy, 12 Geordie Lad, 14 Kentucky, 16 others.

Hamilton Park selections

By Michael Seely

2.15 Red Sky Rose. 2.45 Dream Again. 3.15 Bonne Baiser. 3.45 Composer. 4.15 Lift High. 4.45 Selborne Record.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.15 Red Sky Rose. 3.15 Rag on Fire. 3.45 Composer. 4.15 Escape from Hell.

Haydock Park selections

By Michael Seely

2.15 Sutty's Girl. 2.45 Rage Glen. 3.15 Rushmoon. 3.45 SUSARMA is specially recommended. 4.15 Ormolu. 4.45 Video King.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.15 Queen's Glory. 2.45 Minus Man. 3.15 Lafontaine. 3.45 Susarma. 4.15 Wippin Crust. 4.45 Video King.

Nottingham results

3.30 (3.35) HEADINGLEY STAKES (3-y-o: £2,498: 6f)
COME ON THE BLUES b c by Blue Cashmere — Floral Gift (Capt M Lemos) 9-1 W Carson (4-1 fav) 1
Marti Gras ...... G Baxter (8-1) 2
Boatrocker ...... J Lowe (10-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 40p; places, 11p, 35p, 58p; Dual F: £2.42 CSF: £23.45. C Brittain at Newmarket. Nk, ¼l. Cuaras (13-2) 4th. Swynford's Passion not under starter's orders; rule 4 does not apply. 16 ran.

4.0 (4.1): LORDS HANDICAP (3-y-o: £1,230: 5f)
BLAKESWARE SAINT b f by Welsh Saint — Regency Girl (J Fitzpatrick) 8-8 R Curant (8-1) 1
Fast Lad ...... T Jarvis (11-8 fav) 2
Draguma ...... S Perks (7-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 77p; places, 41p, 10p, 14p. Dual F: £1.27. CSF: £1.91. M Tompkins, at Newmarket. ½l, 2. Parabems (100-30) 4th. 8 ran.

Hereford NH

3.45: 1, Old Bean (4-1); 2, Bobette (7-1); 3, Rib Law (12-1). Spartan Major and Pilot Officer 3-1 jt favs. 13 ran.

4.15: 1, Cheekio Ora (4-6 fav); 2, Armagnac Princess (7-4); 3, Fordington Valley (14-1). 9 ran. Nr: Royal Air and Ivor Valley.

4.45: 1, Spartan Daisy (6-1); 2, Anteres (7-2 jt fav); 3, Gambling Fox (14-1). The Reverend Owen 7-2 jt fav. 15 ran. Nr: Irish Whiskey and More Lavender.

5.15: 1, Royal Classic (10-1); 2, French Cooking (25-1); 3, Arctic Rascal (9-2). Late Night Extra 6-5 fav. 16 ran. Nr: Middleriver and Miss Jubilee.

STATE OF GOING: Worcester: Soft (inspection 7.30 am). Haydock Park: Good to soft. Ascot: Good. Hamilton Park: Soft. Tomorrow: Taunton: Good. Southwell: Good.

Sedgefield NH

□ The new-look Phoenix Park racecourse will reopen for the meeting scheduled on May 1. Reconstruction and other improvement work is nearing completion and new owners plan to reintroduce steeplechasing and hurdles as well as flat ...

Folkestone

Going: good.

2.0 (2.2) HOTHFIELD (2-y-o; £858; 5f).
PALACE BEAU ch c, by Dragonara — Hotazur 9 2 B Rouse (7-2) 1
Sweet Remark ...... T Ives (2-1 fav) 2
Silver Market ...... B Raymond (8-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 21p; places, 14p, 13p, 43p. Dual F: 33p. CSF: £1.08. P Ashworth, at Epsom. 2½l, 4l. Nashwane 4-1 4th. 10 ran.

2.30 (2.32) FAVERSHAM (Selling: £736, 1m 2f).
MARECHAL ch h, b Bolkonski — Miss Universe 5-9 12 G Sexton (8-1) 1
Well Greased ...... J Reid (7-2 fav) 2
Robert Adam ...... R Cochrane (14-1) 3
TOTE: Win 98p; places, 23p, 23p, 52p. Dual F: £1.57. CSF: £2.88. TRICAST: £27.14. V Soane, at Newmarket. 4l, 2l. Tamarco (10-1) 4th. 14 ran.

Hamilton Park

Going: soft

2.15 (2.17) AUCHINRAITH HANDICAP (£876)
SALTHOUSE, b g by Blakeney — Grilse Run (M Tabor) 5-9-5 N Vaughan (6-4 fav) 1
Missile Miss ...... M Fry (20-1) 2
Prince of Light ...... D Carr 3
TOTE: Win, 15p; places, 10p, 84p, 40p Dual F: £11.12. CSF: £3 45 Tricast £17 24. N Callaghan, at Newmarket. 4l, 4. Majorian 9-1 4th. 12 ran.

2.45 (2.50) QUARRY HANDICAP (Selling: £790; 1m 40yd)
STAR ALLIANCE, b f by Big Morton — Wet And Windy (R Morris) 4-8-7 S Webster (20-1) 1
Orp Baltic ...... O Gray (10-1) 2
The Beginning ...... G Oldroyd (2-1 fav) 3
TOTE: Win, £1.20; places, £1.11; 16p, 10p. Dual F: 35p (winner or second with any other horse). CSF: £15. R Morris, at Welshpool. 10l, 3. Marchgate (11-2) 4th. Karyobinga withdrawn, not under orders. Rule 4 applies. 8 ran.

POINT-TO-POINT

Heythrop is decided at the last

By Ian Reid

Spartan Scot duly landed the short odds yesterday in four-mile Men's Open, the first of the season's "clashes". But it might have been a different story if The Spud Centre, who had led from the start, had not unseated Kelvin Mizon at the last fence. It would have been a very close thing indeed. Athenmore Lass was 20 lengths second.

The Ladies' Open race for the Lyon Trophy produced a new star in Lefrak City, a five-year-old who fought a long duel with Assured over the last mile. The horse's speed from the last fence proved decisive.

Last Saturday, just after Caroline Saunders, riding Robin Weaving's Rugy, had beaten Jenny Pidgeon on the odds-on French Peacock in the early Grafton Adjacent, I said to her: "Perhaps that's a good omen for your father." She replied with a smile: "I hope so."

Miss Saunders rode Grittar to victory twice in the Hunter Chase named after James Seely at Southwell — the first time on April 3 1980, two years to the day before Saturday's big race. Television sets have been installed on the course at Newton Brownwold, and as Grittar cruised home the cheers must have been heard in Northampton.

Four of the nine races were won by horses from Bunny Tarry's stable. Richard Russell had his first winning double on two of them, both of which he owns — Shifting Gold in the Members', and the rapidly improving Crozanna in the first Restricted. The other two were ridden by James Tarry, who is having an excellent season.

Sir Bryn produced spectacular acceleration to win the Men's Open in the fastest time of the day, but Coming Over only got up in the last stride to head That Faction in the first Maiden.

Results

Berton: Hunt: Penguin Suit; Adj: Brown Loaf; L: Mackelly; O: Song Of Life; RO: Double Earning; Mdn: Vulgarian.
Cattistock: Hunt: Merry Belle; RO: Double Fox; LO: Valarion; O: Dorset Farmer; Adj: Lucky Victory; Rest: Stormy Dell.
Cleveland: Adj: Ducky Warrior; RO: Tudor Gull, LO: High Court; O: Lady Buttons; Mdn I: Sealed; Mdn II: Pitskelly Blues; Hunt: Netherby Clint.
Essex: Hunt: Henry Spider; Adj: Highland Barolo; LO: Pelant Barle; RO. Swinging Light; O: Hill Point; Mdn I: Sandy Mac; Mdn II: My Good Man.
Grafton: Hunt: Shifting Gold; Adj I: Hasty Retreat; Adj II: Rugy. O I. Crozanna; O II: Highgate Lady; LO: Sporran Lad; O: Sir Bryn; Mdn I: Coming Over; Mdn II: Bay Bell.
Linlithgow and Stirlingshire: Hunt: Binny Craig; Adj: Bluegello; LO: Kinkio; O: Vimy Ridge; RO: Betsy Crocker; Mdn: Red Garnet
Monmouthshire: Hunt: Magic Rock; Adj: Lintan; O: Dempsey; LO: Lady Pen; RO I: Noble Noddy; RO II: India Air; Mdn: Moss Spot.
North Cornwall: Hunt: Jo's Flamenco; O: Bararden; LO: Hargan; Adj: Rebel Day; Mdn: Morgan Evans.
North Ledbury: Hunt: Hay Merchant; Adj I: Extra Fine; Adj II: Talspirit; O: Border Mark; RoI: Romardair; RO II: Butterfly Lilly; LO: Housemistress; Mdn I: Flamtex; Mdn II: Little Trouble.
South Devon: Hunt: Brown Bowler; Adj: Spider leg; LO: Perambulate; BFS: Sinsirawa VI; O: Armagnac Princess; Mdn: Sandsprite
Vale of Clettwr: Hunt: Cefn Exhaven; Adj: Norman Case; O: Brigadier Mouse; LO: Jemmerly Jane; RO: Panford; Mdn I: Dessert; Mdn II: Yukon Tina.

Fixtures

Today: East Devon at Ottery St Mary (2.0).
Easter Saturday: Ashford Valley at Charing (2.0); Balckmore and Sparkford Vale at Kingweston (2.0); Hursley Hambledon at Twesseldown (2.0); Llandibby at Howick (2.0); Morpeth at Tranwell (2.0); North Staffordshire at Sandon (2.0); Puckeridge and Thurlow at Horseheath (2.0); Ross Harriers at Belmont (1.30); Royal Artillery at Larkhill (2.0); Spooners and West Dartmoor at Kilworthy (1.15); Vale of Aylesbury at Kimble (2.0); Vale of Lune Harriers at Whittington (2.0); Wheatland at Bitterley (2.0); Woodland Pytchley at Dingley (2.15); Zetland at Caldwell (2.0).

Easter Monday: Chiddingfold, Leconfield and Cowdray at Midhurst (1.40); East Kent at Aldington (2.0); Eggesford at Bishopsleigh (2.15); Essex Farmers at Marks Tey (2.0); Four Burrow at Tehidy (2.0); North Cotswold at Springhill (2.0); Old Berkshire at Locking (2.0); Southdown and Eridge at Heathfield (2.30); South Notts at Newark (2.0); South Pembrokeshire at Lydstep (2.0); South Shropshire at Eyton-on-Severn (1.30); Staintondale at Wykeham (2.0); Talybont at Talybont-on-Usk (2.0); Taunton Vale at Jordans (2.0); Tynedale at Corbridge (2.0); Vine and Craven at Hackwood Park (2.0);

Easter Tuesday: Croome and West Warwickshire at Upton-on-Severn (2.0); High Peak and NE Cheshire Staghounds at Flagg Moor (2.0); Pytchley at Guilsborough (2.0).

CRICKET: GAVASKAR A SHREWD AND SKILFUL LEADER OF TOURING TEAM

Why Indians will test England

By Richard Streeton

No country's cricketers have tended to do less justice to their ability in English conditions over the years than those from India. Noting the quick eye and wrists of one touring side, and influenced no doubt by his association with Ranji, C. B. Fry once said Indians were the most natural cricketers in the world. The facts have not always confirmed Fry's view, and he was speaking, of course, before the emergence of West Indies as a power in the game.

Given, though, a fair deal from English weather and groundsmen, the Indians touring here in the first half of the summer under Gavaskar should prove capable of extending England fully. The 16 chosen make up a talented and mature team who will be brimful of confidence after outplaying England during the winter. For all its dull pattern it was still possible during the series for the dispassionate onlooker to recognize that India were the better side, certainly in their own country.

Several factors should help India fulfil their potential in England, even if their batting looks better equipped for the job than their bowling. Practically the entire team have experienced English pitches before, either with visiting Test or schoolboy sides or in the leagues. They have virtually no tail and helmets have helped eradicate traditional weaknesses against pace and seam.

Nor should recent events in South Africa on India's chances of scoring runs this year be overlooked. Willis and Botham *remain, and others, it is hoped,* will emerge. But amid all the recent uproar, the effect that the absence of Hendrick, Old, Lever and Les Taylor might have on England's new-ball attack this year has escaped comment.

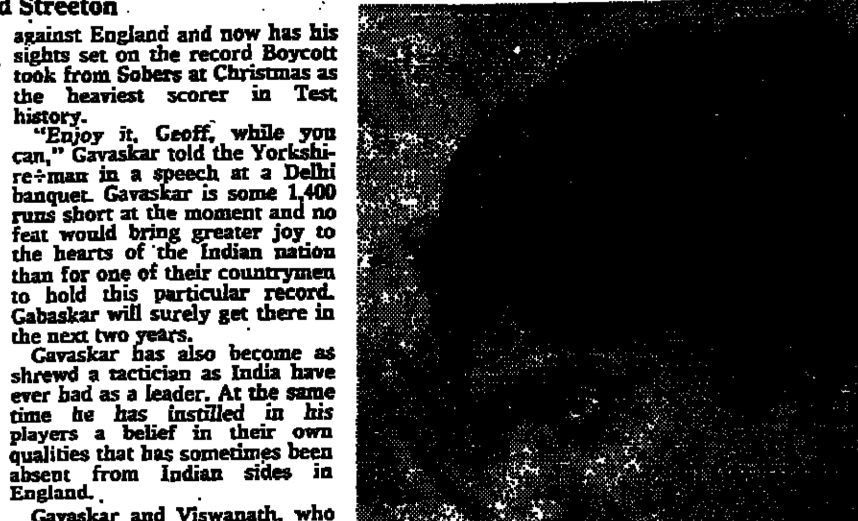
Gavaskar's own skill remains the lynchpin of India's batting. After a lean phase, by his standards, he rediscovered his concentration appetite for runs against England and now has his sights set on the record Boycott took from Sobers at Christmas as the heaviest scorer in Test history.

"Enjoy it, Geoff, while you can," Gavaskar told the Yorkshireman in a speech at a Delhi banquet. Gavaskar is some 1,400 runs short at the moment and no feat would bring greater joy to the hearts of the Indian nation than for one of their countrymen to hold this particular record. Gabaskar will surely get there in the next two years.

Gavaskar has also become as shrewd a tactician as India have ever had as a leader. At the same time he *has instilled in his* players a belief in their own qualities that has sometimes been absent from Indian sides in England.

Gavaskar and Viswanath, who remains the most graceful of present-day Indian batsmen, will be making their fourth major tour of England, and Vengsarkar and Yashpal Sharma survive from the 1979 party. Vengsarkar, tall, angular, and probably Gavaskar's long-term heir as captain, finally *found the confidence* to go for his strokes on the big occasion in recent months. He played a crucial innings during the one-day series that India unexpectedly won in January and retained his new approach in the later Tests. Yashpal Sharma remains a hard man to remove in a crisis.

Of those coming who are less familiar to English crowds, Sandeep Patil could become the biggest favourite. Patil, an aggressive driver, hammered Lillee, Hogg and Pascoe for 174 *in the second* Test at Adelaide in 1980-81, three weeks after being felled by a bumper from Pascoe. He was a little unfortunate to lose his Test place against England as the series progressed but played a crucial part with bat and ball when India clinched the third and decisive limited-over international. Patil in form is the sort of batsman who can turn a match in an hour.


Kapil Dev, who should emphasize his improvement.

Patil's Test place went to Ashok Malhotra, a stocky but nimble right-hander, who makes strokes all round the wicket. He is 25 and has been in the first-class game nine years but has scored consistently only for the past two seasons. Scores of 80 and 67 not out for North Zone at Jammu against England earned him his place in the Indian side.

The other batsmen in the Indian touring party are Pranob Roy, who opened with Gavaskar in the last two Tests against England, and the uncapped Ghulam Parkar. Roy is the son of Pankaj Roy, whose five ducks in the 1952 series, including four against Trueman, have left him an unhappy and slightly distorted place in the record books.

Pranob is by far the soundest of the younger school of Indian opening batsmen and Gavaskar had a decisive say *in his selection* ahead of more freescoring rivals. Parkar, a small stylish strokemaker, failed against England in a zonal match but is another promising opening batsman in his early twenties. He was as good a cover point or deep fieldsman as England met on their tour.

The other uncapped players chosen are Suru Nayak, an all-rounder, and Randhir Singh, a medium pace bowler. Nayak, slight and wiry, bats left and bowls right-arm medium and is the sort of utility player every touring team ideally has. He performed well more than once against England, not least when he earned his place in India's one-day team. Randhir Singh, tall and slim, failed to live up to hopes expressed before England arrived as India's new bowling prospect. At his best, though, he can move the ball briskly either way and might do well on English pitches.

The lack of a full-blooded, out-and-out fast bowler to share the new ball with Kapil Dev remains the main weakness of Gavaskar's side. Kapil finished the winter series looking stale and weary as a bowler, though his fiercely struck century in the sixth Test was a remarkable piece of cricket. Provided Kapil has regained his zest, he and Madan Lal — last here in 1975 — should emphasise the improvement they have made since their previous visits to England, when both were fairly expensive. Madam Lal's career went into eclipse for a time but in helpful conditions he occasionally moved the ball about awkwardly last winter and was usually economical.

India's main strength lies with their left-arm spinners, Doshi and Shastri. In 1980 Doshi took 100 wickets in his last full English season with Warwickshire and has become a genuinely subtle left-arm bowler with a good record on hard wickets overseas. Shastri, who *has his* twentieth birthday in May, bowls with less variation but is improving all the time. Shivial Yadav's looping flight and sharper turn brought him the off-spinner's place ahead of several close rivals.

Kirmani is the only specialist wicketkeeper chosen and would possibly win a current poll among cricketers as the third best in the world after Knott and Taylor. With his shaven head — following a pilgrimage to Mecca — and a lively sense of fun, Kirmani could prove one of the leading characters in an India team that should entertain and perform with credit.

INDIAN TEAM: Sunil Gavaskar (captain), Gundappa Viswanath (vice-captain), Pranob Roy, Ghulam Parker, Dilip Vengsarkar, Yashpal Sharma, Ashok Malhotra, Sandeep Patil, Kapil Dev, Madan Lal, Rafi Shastri, Suru Nayak, Syed Kirmani (wicketkeeper), Dilip Doshi, Shivial Yadav, Randhir Singh.


Shastri, Doshi's partner in left-arm spin

Derbyshire loss

An increase of over a third in playing expenses brought about a loss of £47,374 for Derbyshire last season, an increase of £5,570 on the previous year.

MODERN PENTATHLON

Hard roads ahead for Britain's pentathletes

By Michael Coleman

It will be all "away" matches for Britain's senior modern pentathletes this year in places like Rome, Germany, Paris, Budapest, Vienna and Uppsala. No overall sponsor has come forward, so a lot of travelling will be needed to find competition.

The one major home fixture is the world junior championships in London on August 24-28. This will be a complex exercise, which will call for a massive tightening of belts by all in the Modern Pentathlon Association. With up to 20 countries threatening to come, the already overstretched Crystal Palace sports centre will not be able to hide its defects.

But this is for the juniors. For the rest, it will be a season spent living out of suitcases. Two groups have been formed, an Olympics squad (Michael Mumford, Danny Nightingale, Richard Phelps, Philip Royston and Stephen Sowerby) and a national squad (Peter Whiteside; Tim Kenealy, Nigel Clark, Alan Burgham, Peter Tayler, Clive Matcham, Jason Lawrence and Robin May).

The toughest test for the Olympics squad will be on April 21-26 in Rome, the venue for the October world championships. Nightingale, who was injured last year, will be under particular scrutiny. The man in form is Mumford, whose long posting in Berlin with the Royal Engineers is proving distictly beneficial, for all that it isolates him from his team-mates.

It is not widely realized that Mumford has recently twice beaten the West German champion, Chistian Sandow, in contests there — with around 60 competing on each occasion. His total on March 21, for *example,* a huge 5,624 points, was against Sandow's 5,363.

The German missed last year's world championships in Poland *through injury,* and may not be fully fit. But Rehbein, West Germany's new hope, who was second in the world junior title, was also a Mumford victim.

Two days after Rome, our four top juniors (Phelps, Royston, Tayler and Matcham) will be at Bensheim, West Germany. It is no secret that Phelps is the main hope for Los Angeles: the sport here badly needs anoher Olympics gold to attract *sponsors,* now the Montreal's glitter is only a *memory* Phelps, from Gloucester, will have the chance to show his mettle will compete at Compiègne, France.

While the juniors are at Bensheim, a women's squad Wendy Norman, Kathy Tayler (sister of Peter), Sarah Parker the world champion team, these three and Jan Challinor is the team.

The goods news is that Miss Purton, one of the country's fastest runners, prefers modern pentathlon. The bad news is that Janet Savage, the national champion who announced her retirment after losing her Sports Aid Foundation grant, is blossoming as an athlete. On March 14 she ran 2hr 54min 09sec in the British American marathon

SWIMMING

Selectors look past Brew's losing habit

Robin Brew has survived a disastrous day of disqualifications to gain selection to the British swimming team for the international against Russia at Blackpool on April 17 and 18, sponsored by Sun Life.

Brew, aged 19, an RAF physical training corporal based at Cosford, has been included by selectors who decided that the quality of his performances at the national short-course championships at Nuneaton an Sunday were more important than the disqualifications which followed.

Brew demolished his own British short-course record by 3.14 seconds while winning the 200 metres individual medley, but was then disqualified for dipping his head under at the turn from the breaststroke leg. The title went instead to Stephen Forrest, of Manchester, whose time in finishing second also bettered the record set by Brew in Paris in February. There was a second disqualification in similar circumstances for Brew after he finished third in the 200 metres breaststroke in what would have been a new Scottish record time.

Andy Morton, the British team manager, said: "We picked Brew because our chief coach, Terry Dennison, is a breaststroke expert. The problem was only a technicality, and I am sure that between them they can get it right for Blackpool."

Liverpool swimmer Andrew Jameson joins his sister, Helen, in the team for his first full international. Olympic relay silver-medallist Helen, aged 19, is named for the 100 metres backstroke, in which she broke the English record at Nuneaton, and the 200 metres backstroke.

Andrew, a year younger and also training at Kelly College, near Tavistock, earned selection with two outstanding performances at the short-course championships, beating off a cluster of Olympic and international swimmers to win both the 100 backstroke and 100 metres butterfly. It is the first time that a brother-and-sister partnership have been selected in a full British team since Diane and Chris Wilkinson in the early 1960s.

In addition to Jameson and Forrest there are 11 new full internationals in the team. They are Nigel Goldsworthy (Swiss Cottage), Stuart Harris (Manchester), Nick Hodgson (Williams Wasps, Wigan), Frank August (Beckenham), Richard Williams (Fleetwood), Freda Ross (Bexley), Anabelle Cripps (Coventry), Catherine White (South Tyneside), Debbie Caldwell (Williams Wasps), Caroline Cooper (Barnet Copthall), and Lorraine Burt (Reading).

Cripps, the youngest member of the squad at 14, was born in Wisconsin and lived in Madison, New York, before coming back to train at Kelly College. She now swims for Coventry.

Men

100m freestyle: N Goldsworthy, M Taylor, M Reynolds. 200m freestyle: S Harris, Taylor, J Randall (Leicester). 400m freestyle: J Davey, Harris, P Easter. 1500m freestyle: Easter, D Stacey, R Williams. 100m breaststroke: A Moorhouse, F August, L Atkinson. 200m breaststroke: Moorhouse, August, R Brew. 100m backstroke: A Jameson, G Abraham, Davey. 200m backstroke: Jameson, P Lerpiniere, N Cochran. 100m butterfly: Jameson, P Hubble, Abraham. 200m butterfly: Hubble, S Poulter, N Hodgson. 200m individual medley: S Forrest, Brew, Davey. 400m individual medley: Poulter, Davey, Forrest. 4 x 100m freestyle relay: Taylor, Hubble, Goldsworthy, Harris. 4 x 200m freestyle relay: Hubble, Harris, Easter, Taylor.

Women

100m freestyle: J Croft, C Foot, N Fibbens. 200m freestyle: Croft, J Willmott, Foot. 400m freestyle: Croft, Wilmott, S Kerswell. 800m freestyle: Wilmott, A Cripps, D Caldwell. 100m breaststroke: S Brownsdon, G Stanley, L Burt. 200m breastroke: Stanley, Brownsdon, K Jones. 100m backstroke: H Jameson, C White, A Mason. 200m backstroke: Jameson, J Admans, White. 100m butterfly: L Criddle, C Cooper, J Osgerby. 200m butterfly: A Osgerby, F Ross, Criddle. 200m individual medley: Brownsdon, M Scott, L Tate. 400m individual medley: Scott, Kerswell, Admans. 4x100m freestyle relay: Croft, Foot, Fibbens, Wilmott.

ATHLETICS

Danger of sponsors vanishing

By Richard Streeton

A reminder that some sponsors might be frightened away if athletics went fully open came yesterday when details of British Meat's 1982 financial aid to British track and field were announced. It will be the fifth successive year they have helped the sport and their contribution this season has been raised to £100,000.

"We are, though, slightly confused by the changing nature of amateur athletics," Mr Tony Craddock, British Meat's vice-chairman said. If circumstances stayed the same they expected to contribute to British athletics right up to the 1984 Olympic Games. In the future, though, the sums required could be out of reach financially though they hoped this would not be the case.

Mr Bill Evans, chairman of the British Amateur Athletic Board, was quick to reassure Mr Craddock that barely two per cent of athletes in this context would be affected if the sport went open. He stressed the important help British Meat gave to junior athletes.

A Welsh Games at Cwmbran on August 11 and 12, after which the Welsh squad for the Commonwealth Games in Brisbane next October, would be chosen, is the main addition this season to the British Meat fixture list.

The programme will include a full men's and women's international with Ireland and strong teams from the AAA and from Commonwealth countries will also take part.

This year's British Meat Games at Crystal Palace on June 18 and 19 will comprise a tripartite match between Britain and Northern Ireland, East Germany and Belgium.

Among other fixtures being sponsored were the Scottish national championships at Grangemouth July 9-10.

FISHING

Casting for trout on golden pond

By Conrad Voss Bark

A golden salmon leaping from a golden fountain appears on the outside of the beautifully produced brochure that offers thousands of pounds in prizes to fly-fishing clubs who enter the great national reservoir fishing championships of 1982.

Regional heats will be played off at Wimbleball, Bewl Bridge, Rutland Water and a number of other pitches, and the finals will be at Grafham Water on August 6.

This is one of several competitions of various kinds, admittedly the most glossy in its promotion literature, by which the makers of cigarettes and beer and fishing tackle are hoping to increase their sales by exploiting the developing reservoir trout fishing market. A few club prizes or a free fishing holiday for two in Kenya and — *bingo!* — in come the applications.

Competition has its virtues, leading to excellence, achievement and success, whether one runs a mile faster than anyone else or bats like a Botham at Lord's, so that the case for competition in catching trout on the reservoirs may be worth looking at more closely. No doubt it is popular, for the competitive urge is easily aroused, especially when men fish in close company.

It is also true that we are not dealing with the catching of wild fish, so that conservation does not arise, for the trout are specially bred and stocked to be caught; and so far as the catching is concerned, those who enter these competitions are likely, because of the noise and disturbance, to catch fewer than they would have done if they had fished on their own.

One effect is predictable. Those who like to fish in peace and quiet and enjoy the pleasures of the country will certainly avoid the major reservoirs on Saturdays in the high season and take day tickets or become subscribers at the smaller private lakes. And water authorities, most of whom are subsidising their reservoir fishing, will be anxious to balance the loss of one against the gain of the other.

All these arguments are of interest but not of great importance; what causes a certain mild concern is that this kind of sponsorship is concerned with killing. It promotes those human emotions that responsible fly fishermen seek to control, the killer urge that can lead, especially among the young, to an indiscriminate slaughter of fish for the sake of slaughter.

Most professional game fishing instructors make a point of urging restraint in killing. Reservoir trout fishing competitions encourage an attitude of mind which is almost entirely the opposite.

Strangely enough, we were warned about this kind of activity some 500 years ago by one of the first English instructors on angling, who wrote that the art of fishing was to be indulged in for the health of the body and the good of the soul and was not intended to be used for the benefit of one's purse.

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Rates: a demand for reform



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In the past two years the Government has cut back its rate support grant and come down hard on high spending authorities.

The entire system needs major overhaul. The last revaluation of rates and rateable values took place in 1972. Despite promises from successive governments to find a more equitable system, very litte has been done.

There have been suggestions to change completely the entire rating system in England and Wales (Scotland has a separate system.) One of the most popular has been to scrap the present structure and substitute a local sales tax — a method favored by a number of American cities and states — or even a poll tax.

In Britain many believe that a local tax would be difficult to raise, involving greater town hall bureacracy, and would hit those who could least afford to pay.

The Government is aware of the need to reform the rating system but, like its predecessors, is loath to rush into action. At the moment it is taking evidence from interested groups for its Green Paper, *Alternatives to Domestic Rates.*

One of the latest submissions has been made by the Rating and Valuation Association, which has misgivings about a local sales or income tax or a poll tax. Intead, it strongly supports proposals for reforming the existing domestic rating system.

One major suggestion the RVA is making is that rates should be based on capital values rather than the present notional rental value of a property. It also suggests that an allowance for domestic rates should be made against national income tax.

The switch to capital values is an interesting one. Several countries, including the USA, have already adopted this system. The level of rates you paid would be tied directly to the real value of your property. Councils would then have to fix the percentage rate at which the tax was levied.

One obvious snag would be the assessment of individual properties' capital values and who would actually undertake such an assessment. The houses in one street might be broadly similar but there can be big variations in their market value.

Allowing the cost of rates against income tax would probably get a cool reception from the Government. A large enough political row is brewing over the deduction of mortgage interest payments against income tax. It seems highly unlikely that any government would seriously consider tax deductible rates.

Certainly there is a need for some reform of the present system. It is out of date and out of line with property values.

□ For the first time in virtually a year the country's leading building societies are talking about rising property prices. The latest bulletin from the Leeds Permanent predicts an increase of as much as 10 per cent during the current year. It says: "Although the private housing market is not yet buoyant the evidence suggests that a new confidence is returning . . . While economic ups and downs affect the buying power of every family, it seems that the desire for those people who want to own their own property is beginning to reassert itself."

But the society's chief general manager, Mr Stanley Walker, warns that the market is unlikely to improve immediately. He says there is still a large pool of unsold houses, especially in the middle price range, which will have to be cleared before prices start rising substantially.

These sentiments are also expressed by Mr Clive Thornton, chief general manager of the Abbey National. He says: "Predictions of a boom are certainly premature and not borne out by our experience. We expect a gentle recovery during the year, as house prices have fallen well below the level of wage and general price increases."

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W.1. Prof m. share lux. flat, own room, £35 incl. p.w. 735 3533.

W.12. Prof. girl 25+, non-smoker, own room, all facilities. £130 p.c.m. incl. 749 6785.

CLAPHAM GIRL to share house, own room, £30 p.w.—274 2092.

W.2.—Second person shr. c.h. flat. Own recently decorated big room. £30 p.w.—402 7884.

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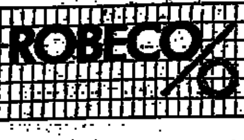
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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

6.40 Open University: Water Masses 7.05 Evolution of Molluscs 7.30 Neurophysiology 7.55 Closedown 9.45 The Wombles narrated by Bernard Cribbins (r) 9.50 Jackanory. Eleanor Bron with The Butterfly that Stamped (r) 10.05 Cartoon: The Banana Splits (r) 10.35 Why Don't You ...? Ideas for children as an alternative to television (r) 11.00 Closedown 12.30 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Moira Stuart 12.57 Regional news (London and SE only: Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles) 1.00 Pebble Mill at One. Salman Rushdie talks about his award-winning novel Midnight's Children which is being launched in paperback today 1.45 Over the Moon (r) 2.00 Golf: Men v Women: Sally Little plays Greg Norman (r) 2.50 Film: Painted Boats* (1945) starring Jenny Laird and Bill Blewett. The story of two canal families 3.53 Regional news (not London)

3.55 Play School. For the under fives (shown earlier on BBC 2).
4.20 Cartoon: Scooby Doo Where Are You? (r).
4.40 Take Hart. Tony Hart designs an heraldic shield.
5.00 John Craven's Newsround.
5.05 A Little Silver Trumpet. Episode two and Mrs Jessop is heartbroken after having the precious tin box containing Jim Ashburn's savings stolen.
5.40 News with Michael Sullivan
6.00 South East at Six.
6.25 Nationwide.
6.45 Rolf Harris Cartoon Time. Four funnies; Tom and Jerry in Jerry and the Lion and Sleepy Time Possum; Foghorn Leghorn in Feather Bluster; and Bugs Bunny in Hare-Abian Nights.
7.15 Film: Jesus Christ Superstar (1973) starring Ted Neeley, Carl Anderson and Yvonne Elliman. The screen version of the Tim Rice/Andrew Lloyd Webber rock opera. A group of young people travel to the Holy Land and act out the events that led to the Crucifixion. The director is Norman Jewison.

9.00 News with John Humphrys.
9.25 Rough Justice. The first of a three-part series concerning serious crimes and the persons sent to prison for them. A new look at the evidence begs the question "should this man have been found guilty beyond all doubt?" The first subject is Mervyn Russell who was found guilty of stabbing a young girl to death in 1977.
9.55 Sportsnight introduced by Harry Carpenter. Highlights from one of tonight's European Football competitions. It is the semi-final stage and in the European Cup Aston Villa face the Belgians Anderlecht while Tottenham Hotspur, playing at home, meet Barcelona in the Cup-Winners' Cup.
10.50 A Question of Guilt. Episode three in the reconstruction of the story about Constance Kent whose young step-brother was brutally murdered (r).
11.45 News headlines and weather.

BBC 2

6.40 Open University: Maths: Completeness. 7.05 Magic and Shakespeares' Plays. 7.30 Microbes and the Microscope. 7.55 Closedown. 10.20 Gharbar. A magazine for Asian viewers (r). 10.45 Closedown. 11.00 Play School. For the under fives presented by Sarah Long and Stuart McGugan. The story is The Little Green Frog by Chloe Ashcroft. 11.25 Closedown. 2.20 Racing from Ascot. Julian Wilson introduces four races; the Kestral Hurdle (2.35); the Peregrine Handicap Chase (3.05); The Exp-O-Tel Supersports Long Distance Hurdle (3.35); and the Golden Eagle Novices' Chase (4.10). The commentators are Peter O'Sullevan and Richard Pitman.

4.25 Landscapes of England. In the last of his journeys of exploration Professor William Hoskins visits Haunts of Ancient Peace in Devon (r).
4.50 Caught in Time. James Cameron introduces some home movies of the 20s and 30s (r).
5.10 Science and Disease. How childbed fever was eradicated (r).
5.35 Hawk of the Wilderness*. Episode three of the nail biting serial and Hawk faces a man-eating tiger.
5.50 The Water Margin. Adventures of legendary Chinese knights.
6.35 The Ascent of Man. Part two: The Harvest of the Seasons (r).
7.25 One Hundred Great Paintings. El Greco's The Burial of the Count of Orgaz.
7.35 News.
7.40 The Master Game. A chess match between Britain's Ray Keene and Eric Lobron of West Germany.
8.10 Chronicle: Mohenjo-daro. City of the Dead.

9.00 M*A*S*H. The last in the present series sees the indomitable Hawkeye taking on the US Army — with predictable results.
9.25 Nancy Astor. The final episode. A blitz devastates Plymouth and Nancy and Waldorf set about devoting their energies to saving their adopted city. Meanwhile Waldorf tries to persuade Nancy not to stand for re-election and she feels betrayed by him.
10.15 Hadyn Festival. The Academy of Ancient Music play Symphony No 44, in E minor.
10.45 Newsnight.
11.30 Vigil. A preparation for Easter. Ends at 11.50.

ITV/LONDON

9.30 Cartoon: Barney Google and Snuffy Smith in the Country Club: Smiths;9.40 The World We Live In: The Weather Watchers; 10.05 The History Makers The rise of Napoleon; 10.30 The Insect Alternative: Pest control; 11.25 Paint Along with Nancy (r); 11.55 The Bubblies (r); 12.00 The Munch Bunch: Adventures of animated vegetables; 12.10 Rainbow: Learning with Puppets; 12.30 Movie Memories: Roy Hudd with some famous film stunts and stuntman Derek Ware; 1.00 News with Peter Sissons; 1.20 Thames news; 1.30 Crown Court: Continuing the case against Arthur Holland, accused of murdering his stepmother; 2.00 After Noon Plus: "High tec" or natural childbirth? Kay Avila chairs a discussion; 2.45 The Six Million Dollar Man: Steve has to compete with a rival bionic man (r); 3.45 Definition: Celebrity crossword quiz chaired by Don Moss. His guests are Carol Drinkwater and Leslie Crowther.

4.15 Cartoon: Road Runner in Highway Runnery.
4.20 Animals in Action: Big is Beautiful. World concern about the declining number of whales has spurred a thirst for knowledge about the magnificent mammal. Keith Shackleton takes us round the world of the whale.
4.45 Murphy's Mob:Drama series about a football Club.
5.15 Mr Merlin: A comedy about a wizard disguised as a garage manager.
5.45 News. 6.00 Thames news.
6.25 Help! Today is World Health Day and Viv Taylor Gee talks to Mary Stott about elderly people and the quality of their lives.
6.35 Crossroads: Doris Luke's childhood sweetheart turns up after forty years.
7.00 Where There's Life . . Introduced by Miriam Stoppard and Rob Buckman. The difference between medical treatments in the East and West.
7.30 Coronation Street: Eddie Yeats produces some new wheels.
8.00 The Benny Hill Show: Comic sketches and songs from the master of the innuendo. Among his guests tonight are Henry McGee, Bob Todd, Jack Wright and Helen Horton.

9.00 Minder: The final programme of the series and Terry and Arthur are both in trouble with the police. Arthur agrees to sell a BMW car for Scotsman Frank MacFadyen but as soon as it is his car lot the police *pounce and Arthur is helping the police in* their inquiries concerning drug smuggling. It's up to Terry to help prove his innocence.
10.00 News.
10.30 Film: From a Far Country: Pope John Paul II (1981) starring Sam Neill, Lisa Harrow and Christopher Cazenove. A new film about the rise of Karol Wojtyla from humble Polish beginnings to become the first non-Italian pontiff for nearly five hundred years. The story is told by highlighting the events after World War Two that shaped his destiny. The director is Krzysztof Zanussi.
12.40 One Man's Easter:Don Cupitt and Marghanita Laski talk about Holy Week.

CHOICE

Robert Fleming in Crown Court (ITV 1.30pm).

● In Chronicle's CITY OF THE DEAD (BBC 2, 8.10 pm) Professor Colin Renfrew takes us back to a civilization created four and a half thousand years ago. From the Indus Valley we follow him in his learned footsteps around two major cities — one at Mohenjo-daro, the other several hundred miles to the north at Harapa. It was in the middle of the last century when the discovery of an engaved seal stone gave the first clue to the existence of an ancient civilization in the area. But not until 1922 was the area excavated to any extent and a British archaeologist Sir John Marshall was responsible for unearthing the world's third major river civilization after the Nile and the Euphrates.

● THE CASE OF THE HANDFUL OF HAIR (BBC 1, 9.25 pm) is the first in a three-part series entitled Rough Justice. Each programme investigates a doubtful conviction and re-examines the evidence as well as unearthing some new facts. Tonight reporter Martin Young investigates the case of Mervyn Russell, a Deptford squatter sentenced to life for the murder of a 22-year old girl art student. Certainly the re-examined evidence casts grave doubts and even those doubts disappear with the emergence of the new facts. Unfortunately, the prime suspect died before Russell's trial began. I only hope that Justice, the organisation that looks into doubtful *convictions, can speedily win* Russell a new trial.

● Last May Margaret Percy presented a portrait of the village of Rosles on the Northern Ireland border with the South and called it Landscapewith Bandits. For this she won a Pye Radio Award. Now she has turned her attention to Belfast and in particular the Divis Flats for a programme entitled TOWNSCAPE WITH BRITS (Radio 4, 8.45 pm). The Divis Flats harbour the extreme Republicans—from the IRA itself to the splinter group, the Irish National Liberation Army. All their movements are monitored by a closed circuit television network operated by the Army who have a camp on top of Divis Tower. The intrepid Margaret Percy began visiting the Flats just over six months ago after the collapse of the hunger strikes. She talks to the inhabitants—male, female and children—and the picture she paints is one of resigned despair. Brits Out, for sure,but if or when they go will it mean the end of violence?

Radio 4

5.00 News.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today.
8.33 Yesterday in Parliament.
8.57 Weather and Travel.
9.00 News.
9.05 Midweek: Henry Kelly.†
10.00 News.
10.02 Gardeners Question Time visits Cheshire.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 The Stranger. A reading for Holy Week.
11.00 News and Travel.
11.03 Baker's Dozen.
12.00 News.
12.02 You and Yours.
12.27 The Other Side of Silence (new series)† A serial by Ted Allbeury in eight episodes.
12.55 Weather and Travel.
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News and Travel.
3.02 Play† . "The Serang" by Vincent McInerney.
3.47 Time for Verse. Charles Matz concludes his discussion on the nature of poetry as sound.
4.00 News.
4.02 Sweet Spring. Dic Jones notes the changing life on the land.
4.10 A Lady's Life in the Rocky Mountains. The fascinating adventures of Isabella Bird as recounted by letters to her sister.
4.40 Story Time: The Last Resort" by Pamela Hansford Johnson (11).
5.00 News.
5.55 Weather and Programme News.
6.00 News and Financial Report.
6.30 Frank Muir Goes Into . . .† Crime.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 A Good Night Out. Laurie Taylor participates in a Medieval Banquet.
7.45 Poetry at Bath.† Extracts from a literary evening during the 1981 Bath Festival.
8.15 Voices in Harmony† (new series). Marion Foster presents the showcase for amateur choirs.
8.45 Townscape with Brits. A radio portrait of the notorious Divis Flats in Belfast.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
9.59 Weather.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 Detective. Crime and detection in London (4) Contract to Kill.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: "Gorky Park", by Martin Cruz Smith (18).
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News and Weather.
ENGLAND; VHF with lf above except: 6.25-6.30am Weather and Travel. 10.30-10-45 Listen with Mother. 1.55-2.00 Programme News. 5.50-5-55PM (continued). 11.00 Study on 4. 11.30-12.10 Open University.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Your Midweek Choice, Record requests: Vaughan Williams,-Fauro, Dohnanyi.†
8.00 News.
8.05 Your Midweek Choice (continued) Finzi, Brahms, Haydn.
9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer: Chopin; records.†
10.00 Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra. Concert. Mendelssohn, Tchaikovsky, Sibelius.†
11.45 Clarinet and Piano Recital: Hoddinott, Egon Wellesz, Howells.†
12.25 Ravel String Quartet recital.†
1.00 News.
1.05 Concert Hall: Cello and piano recital, direct from Broadcasting House, Lonon: Boccherini, Brahms, Ben-Haim, Jean Coulthard, David Popper.†
2.05 Music Weekly.†
2.55 BBC Northern Symphony Orchestra Concert: Britten, Mozart, Beethoven.†
4.00 Solemn Vespers of Wednesday in Holy Week, from Westminster Cathedral.†
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.†
7.00 The Row Over "La Ronde". Adapted from the transcript of the trial which followed the riot of February 1921 provoked by a performance of Schnitzler's play *La Ronde*.†
8.00 Pritchard Conducts Britten and Mahler Concert direct from the Royal Festival Hall, London. Part 1: Britten.†
8.35 Six Continents.
8.55 Concert Part 2: Mahler.†
10.00 Scientifically Speaking. Professor Semir Zeki of University College, London, talks to John Maddox about colour perception.
10.30 Harpsichord Music Recital: Froberger, Louis Couperin, d'Anglebert.†
11.00 News.
11.05 Zelenka on record.†
VHF Only: 5.55am-6.55 and 11.20pm-1.00am Open University.

Radio 2

5.00 Colin Berry.† 7.30 Ray Moore. † 10.00 Jimmy Young. † 12.00 Gloria Hunniford. † 2.00 Ed Stewart. † 4.00 David Hamilton. † 5.45 News and Sport. 6.00 John Dunn. 8.00 Alan Dell. 8.30 Among Your Souvenirs. † (new series) 9.15 Semprini Serenade. † (new series) 10.00 You've Got to be Joking. 10.30 Hubert Gregg. (new series). 11.00 Brian Matthew. † from Midnight. 1.00am Folk on 2. † featuring Ralph McTell, Shirley Collins, Julie Carter and Dan Quinn. 2.00-5.00 You and the Night and the Music. †

Radio 1

5.00 As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Dave Lee Travis. 2.00 Paul Burnett. 3.30 Steve Wright. 5.00 Peter Powell. 7.00 Growing Up in Northern Ireland. 8.00 David Jansen. 10.00 John Peel in Liverpool. † 12.00 Close.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave 648 kHz (463m) at the following times GMT: 6.00 am Newsdesk. 6.30 Famous Pianists of the Past. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 7.30 Letter from London. 7.40 Book Choice. 7.45 Report on Religion. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 The Motel. 8.30 Brain of Britain 1982. 9.00 World News 9.09 Review of the British Press 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Terry Wogan's Album Time. 10.15 Letters from Everywhere. 10.30 Jane Eyre 11.00 World News. 11.09 News about Britain 11.15 Listening Post. 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 pm Radio Newsreel 12.15 Nature Notebook. 12.25 The Farming World. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 1.30 With Great Pleasure. 2.15 Report on Religion. 2.30 These Musical Islands. 3.00 Radio Newsreel 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 The Haydn Years. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 8.30 Assignment. 9.00 Network UK 9.15 International Soccer Special. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Paperback Choice. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 The Bridge of San Luis Rey. 11.30 Top Twenty. 12.00 am World News. 12.09 News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 Listening Post. 12.45 It Makes Me Laugh 1.15 Outlook: News Summary. 1.45 A Pattern of Faith 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press 2.15 Network UK. 2.30 Assignment. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 My Word! 4.45 Financial News. 4.55 Reflections. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 5.45 The World Today.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m. Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m. Radio 1/2 VHF 88-91MHz Radio 3 VHF 9 0-92.5MHz, MF 1215kHz/247m. Radio 4 LF 200kHz/1500m and VHF 92-95MHz Greater London Area MF 720kHz/417m LBC MF 1152khz/261m, VHF 97.3MHz. Capital MF 1548kHz/194m, VHF 95 8MHz BBC Radio London MF 1458kHz/206m and VHF 94 9MHz World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC 1

CYMRU/WALES: 12.57 pm-1.00 News of Wales. 6.00-6.25 Wales Today. 6.45-7.15 Heddiw. 11.47-12.07 am The Hope of Glory. Mass from St Luke's Church, Cardiff. 12.07 News and weather. SCOTLAND: 12.55 pm-1.00 The Scottish News. 6.00-6.25 Reorting Scotland. 10.50-11.15 Love is Old, Love in New (Part 3). 11.15-11.40 Pete Sayers Entertains. 11.40 News and weather. NORTHERN IRELAND: 12.57 pm-1.00 Northern Ireland News. 3.53-3.55 Northern Ireland News. 6.00-6.25 Scene Around Six. 6.45-7.15 Colleges in Question. 1.45 News and weather. ENGLAND: 6.00 pm-6.25 Regional news magazines. 6.45-7.15 East — Changing Places. London and South East—Rolf Harris Catoon Time. Midlands Today—Me and My Town. North—Class. North East—The Yellow Programme. North West—Finding Out. South—Don't Fence Me In. South West—Country Scene. West—Breakthrough 82. 11.50 Close.

CHANNEL

As Thames except: Starts 12.00-12.10 Munch Bunch. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Trapper John. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.30-7.00 Bailey's Bird. 12.40 am Epilogue, Colsedown.

SCOTTISH

As Thames except: 9.30 Kiribati. 10.20 Land of Birds. 10.50 History of the Car. 11.15-12.00 Story Hour. 1.20 pm News. 2.45-3.45 Love Boat. 5.10 Travellers'Tales. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today, followed by Action Line. 6.30-7.00 Report. 12.40 am Late Call. 12.45 Closedown.

HTV

As Thames except: Starts 9.40 Beachcombers. 10.05 Mr Magoo. 10.10 Incredible Hulk. 11.00-12.00 Sesame Street. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45 Fantasy Island. 3.45 History Makers: Galileo. 5.15-5.45 Private Benjamin. 6.00-6.35 News. 12.40 am Closedown.

HTV CYMRU/WALES

As HTV West except: 12.00-12.10 pm Tŷ Bach TWT. 4.15 Mr Merlin. 4.45-5.15 Doctor Snwgwl. 6.00 Y Dydd. 6.15-6.35 Report Wales.

GRANADA

As Thames except: 9.30 The Coral World. 10.15-12.00 Film: A doctor's pride and joy is a hospital and he seeks nothing more from life than to look after it. 12.30 Play It Again. 1.20 Granada Reports. 1.30 Exchange Flags. 2.00 Crown Court. 2.30 Sound of Vince Hill. 2.45 Deeply regretted by: A woman's life is shattered by her husband's death. 6.00 This is Your Right. 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30-7.00 Granada Reports. 12.40 Closedown.

BORDER

As Thames except: Starts 9.35 am Sesame Street. 10.30-12.00 Film: Island of the Lost (Richard Greene). Anthropologist sets out on a perilous voyage in search of uncharted islands. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Bracken. 5.15-5.45 Radio. 6.00-6.35 Lookaround. 12.40 am News. 12.43 Closedown.

GRAMPIAN

As Thames except: Starts 9.40 First Thing. 9.45 New Avengers. 10.35 Stingray. 11.00-12.00 Sesame Street. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Trapper John. 5.15-5.45 Survival. 6.00-6.35 North Tonight. 12.40 News. 12.45 Closedown.

ANGLIA

As Thames except: 9.30 am Larry the Lamb. 9.45 Rocket Robin Hood. 10.10 Call it Macaroni. 10.35 New Fred and Barney Show. 11.00 Tarzan. 11.50-12.00 Wattoo, Wattoo. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Trapper John. 5.15-5.45 Happy Days. 6.00-6.35 About Anglia. 12.40 am Davidson File and Closedown.

TYNE TEES

As Thames except: Starts 9.20 Good Word. 9.25 News. 9.30 Vikings of the Sunrise. 10.15 Kum Kum. 10.35 Cartoon. 10.45 Hopalong Cassidy. 11.50-12.00 Sally and Jake. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Love Boat. 5.15-5.45 Private Benjamin. 6.00 News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25-7.00 Northern Life. 12.40 Four Face of a Holiness..

TVS

As Thames except: Starts 9.35 Untamed World. 10.00 Animated Classics: Moby Dick. 10.50 Beachcombers. 11.15 New Fred and Barney Show. 11.40-12.00 European Folk Tales. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Trapper John. 5.15 Radio. 5.30-5.45 Coast to Coast. 6.00-6.35 Coast to Coast. 11.30 City of Angels. 12.30 am Company, Closedown.

TSW

As Thames except: Starts 9.25 Sun Dancing. 9.30 Sally and Jake. 9.40 Sesame Street. 10.40 Film: Orders are Orders* (Sidney James, Brian Reece. Comedy oon a film nit disrupts the weekend peace at an Army barracks. 11.55-12.00 Captain Nemo. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Trapper John. 5.15 Gus Honeybun. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Today South West. 6.30 Tele Views. 6.40-7.00 Sportsweek. 12.40 Sun Dancing. 12.46 Closedown.

YORKSHIRE

As Thames except. 9.30 Sally and Jake. 9.40 Sesame Street. 10.40 New Accelerators. 11.05 Animated Classic: Moby Dick. 11.55-12.00 Captain Nemo. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Trapper John. 5.15-5.45 Private Benjamin. 6.00-6.35 Calendar. 12.40 Closedown.

CENTRAL

As Thames except: Starts 9.20 3-2-1 Contact. 9.50 Venture. 10.15 Falcon Island. 10.40 Electric Theatre Show. 11.10-12.00 Big Shamus, Little Shamus. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Last of Summer. 5.15-5.45 Radio. 6.00 Crossroads. 6.25-7.00 News. 12.40 am Closedown.

ULSTER

As Thames except: Starts 12.00-12.10 Munch Bunch. 1.20-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.45-3.45 Young Ramsay. 5.15 Radio. 5.30-5.45 Good Evening Ulster. 6.00. Good Evening Ulster. 6.30-6.35 Hope Eternal. 12.40 am News at Bedtime, followed by Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: † STEREO ★ BLACK AND WHITE: (r) REPEAT.

Court of Appeal — Law Report April 7 1982 — Queen's Bench Division

The meaning of 'dishonestly'

Regina v Ghosh

Before Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Lloyd and Mr Justice Eastham

[Judgment delivered April 5]

The law on the meaning of "dishonestly" in the Theft Act 1968, was in a complicated state and, instead of seeking to reconcile irreconcilable authorities, another solution to the problem of ascertaining the meaning was proposed by the Court of Appeal.

The Lord Chief Justice was reading a reserved judgment dismissing an appeal by Deb Baran Ghosh, a surgeon, of Skeena Hill, Wandsworth, London, against conviction at St Albans Crown Court (Judge Anwyl-Davies, QC) on four counts of an indictment: attempting to procure the execution of a cheque by deception, contrary to section 20(1) of the 1968 Act, and attempting to obtain, and obtaining, money by deception, contrary to section 15. He was fined £250 on each count with a term of imprisonment in default of payment.

Mr Robert Francis, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr John Drinkwater, QC and Mr Anthony Glass for the Crown.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said that the appellant was acting as a locum tenens consultant at a hospital. The counts alleged that he had falsely represented that he had himself carried out a surgical operation to terminate pregnancy or that money was due to himself or an anaesthetist for such an operation when in fact the operation had been carried out by someone else and / or under the National Health Service provisions.

His defence was that there was no deception: that the sums paid to him were due for consultation fees which were legitimately payable under the regulations, or else were the balance of fees properly payable — in other words, that there was nothing dishonest about his behaviour on any of the counts.

The effect of the jury's verdict was, on count 1, that he had falsely represented that he had carried out a surgical operation and had intended dishonestly to obtain money thereby; as to the second count that he had falsely pretended that an operation had been carried out under the NHS; as to the third count that he had falsely pretended that money was due to an anaesthetist; and as to the fourth count, that he had obtained money by falsely pretending that an operation had been carried out on a fee-paying basis when in fact it had been conducted under the terms of the NHS.

The ground of appeal was simply that the judge misdirected the jury as to the meaning of dishonesty.

The law on that branch of the Theft Act was in a complicated state and their Lordships embarked on an examination of the authorities with great diffidence. When *R v McIvor* (*The Times*, November 18, 1981; [1982] 1 WLR 409) came before the Court of Appeal, there were two conflicting lines of authority. On the one hand there were cases which decided that the test of dishonesty for the purposes of the Act was, what their Lordships ventured to call, subjective, that is, the jury should be directed to look into the mind of the person charged and determine whether he knew he was acting dishonestly: *R v Landy* ([1981] 1 WLR 355). On the other hand there were cases which decided that the test of dishonesty was objective, for example *R v Greenstein* ([1975] 1 WLR 1353).

In *McIvor* the Court of Appeal sought to reconcile those conflicting lines of authority. They did so on the basis that the subjective test was appropriate where the charge was conspiracy to defraud, but in the case of theft the test should be objective. The question which their Lordships in the present case had to decide was, first, whether the distinction suggested in *McIvor* was justifiable in theory, and second, whether it was workable in practice.

His Lordship considered *Scott v Metropolitan Police Commissioner* ([1975] AC 819) and stated that nothing in that case supported the view that, so far as dishonesty was concerned, "theft is in a different category from *conspiracy to defraud*". Further, nothing in *Landy* itself justified putting theft and conspiracy to defraud into different categories — which was clear from a reference to *R v Feely* ([1973] QB 530).

The difficulty with section 15 was that dishonesty came in twice — "(1) A person who by any deception dishonestly obtains property . . .". If a person knew that he was not telling the truth he was guilty of dishonesty. Indeed, deliberate deception was one of the two most obvious forms of dishonesty. One wondered, therefore, whether "dishonestly" in section 15(1) added anything, except in the case of reckless deception.

As a result of *McIvor*, if "dishonestly" added anything, the consequences could not be regarded as satisfactory from a practical point of view. In seeking to reconcile the two lines of authority, the Court of Appeal in *McIvor* was seeking to reconcile the irreconcilable. It therefore fell to their Lordships either to choose between the two lines of authority or to propose some other solution.

His Lordship considered *R v Waterfall* ([1970] 1 QB 148), *R v Royle* ([1971] 1 WLR 1764) and *R v Gilks* ([1972] 1 WLR 1341) and stated that *Feely* was often treated as having laid down an objective test for the purpose of section 1 of the 1968 Act.

However, what *Feely* actually decided was (1) that it was for the jury to determine whether the person charged acted dishonestly and not for the judge; (2) that the word "dishonestly" could relate *only* to the defendant's own state of mind; and (3) that it was unnecessary and undesirable for judges to define what was meant by "dishonestly".

The heart of the problem was: was "dishonestly" in section 1 intended to characterize a course of conduct? Or was it intended to describe a state of mind? If, as their Lordships thought, it was intended to describe a state of mind, then the knowledge and belief of the person charged were at the root of the problem.

Take for example a man who came from a country where *public transport was free. On his* first day here he travelled on a bus. He got off without paying. He never had any intention of paying. His mind was clearly honest; but his conduct, judged objectively by what he had done, was dishonest. Parliament could not have intended to catch dishonest conduct in that sense, that is, conduct to which no moral obloquy could possibly attach.

If their Lordships were right that "dishonestly" was something in the mind of the person charged, if his mind was honest, it could not be deemed dishonest merely because members of the jury would have regarded it as dishonest to embark on that *course of conduct*.

There remained the objection that, to adopt a subjective test, was to abandon all standards but that of the person charged and to bring about a state of affairs in which "Robin Hood would be no robber". That objection misunderstood the nature of the subjective test.

It was no defence for a man to say "I knew that what I was doing was generally regarded as dishonest; but I do not regard it as dishonest myself. Therefore I am not guilty".

However, what he was entitled to say was "I did not know that anybody would regard what I was doing as *dishonest*". He might not be believed; just as he might not be believed if he set up a "claim of right" under section 2(1) of the 1968 Act or asserted that he believed in the truth of a misrepresentation under section 15. But if he was believed, or raised a real doubt about the matter, the jury could not be sure that he was dishonest.

In determining whether the prosecution had proved that the person charged was acting dishonestly, a jury had first of all to decide whether, according to the ordinary standards of reasonable and honest people, what was done was dishonest. If it was not dishonest by those standards, that was the end of the matter and the prosecution failed.

If it was dishonest by those standards, then the jury had to consider whether the person charged *himself* must have realized that what he was doing was by those *standards* dishonest. In most cases, where the actions were obviously dishonest by ordinary standards, there would be no doubt about it. It would be *obvious* that the person charged himself knew that he was acting dishonestly.

It was dishonest for a person charged to act in a way which he knew ordinary people considered to be dishonest, even if he asserted or genuinely believed that he was morally justified in acting as he had acted. For example, Robin Hood, or those ardent anti-vivisectionists who removed animals from vivisection laboratories, were acting dishonestly even though they might consider themselves to be morally justified in doing what they did, because they knew that ordinary people would consider those actions to be dishonest.

Cases which might be described as borderline, such as *Boggeln v Williams* ([1978] 1 WLR 873) would depend on the jury's view of whether the person charged might have believed what he was doing was in accordance with the ordinary man's idea of honesty.

So far as concerned the present case, once the jury had rejected the appellant's account in respect of each count (as they plainly had) the finding of dishonesty was inevitable whichever of the tests of dishonesty was applied. If the judge had asked the jury to determine whether the appellant might have believed that what he had done was in accordance with the ordinary man's idea of honesty, there could have been only one answer - and that was "No" — once the jury had rejected the appellant's explanation of what had happened.

In so far as there had been a misdirection on the meaning of dishonesty, it was plainly a case for upholding the conviction by application of the proviso to section 2(1) of the Criminal Appeal Act 1968 and accordingly the appeal was dismissed.

Solicitors: DPP.

Sentencing violent burglars

Regina v Garner and Others

Burglars who went into peoples' houses and set about the occupants could expect very severe sentences indeed and whatever talk there had been in recent weeks about leniency, none would be extended towards that type of burglary, Lord Justice Lawton (sitting with Mr Justice Thompson and Mr Justice Jupp) said in the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) on April 1.

In these days of equality of the sexes the view must not go around that women taking part in such offences were entitled to a substantial discount in sentence on account of their sex; and further those persons who went around houses and gave information about them to burglars must expect to be imprisoned.

Political use of courts deplored

Regina v Greater London Council, Ex parte Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea

Before Mr Justice McNeill

[Reasons delivered April 2]

The GLC retained a strategic housing responsibilty in respect of properties transferred to London boroughs under the *Greater London Council (Transfer of Land and Housing Accommodation) Orders 1980 and* 1981 (SI 1980 No 320 and SI 1981 No 289). It was permissible for the *GLC* to determine alternative deemed rents under the orders and the GLC's policy of harmonization of rents of transferred and existing stock within a borough was not an irrelevant consideration.

Mr Justice McNeill was giving reasons in the Queens Bench Division for dismissing an application by the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea for judicial review of the precept issued by the *GLC* dated March 2, 1982 and the decisions and determinations of the GLC under the Orders. Kensington sought declarations and orders of certiorari to quash the GLC's determination of deemed rents and to quash the precept.

Mr Anthony Scrivener QC and Mr Alan Fletcher for Kensington; Mr Roger Henderson, QC and Mr Andrew Arden for the GLC.

MR JUSTICE McNEILL said that Kensington applied for judicial review of decisions of the GLC in their budgeting process *leading to the issue of the* precept. Kensington sought declaratory relief and relief by way of prerogative writ in respect of decisons to budget for a transferred property deficit and a special contingency balance.

Dealing with the transferred property deficit first, the GLC decided that "the deemed rent of transferred stock be increased by £2.50 a week for the purpose of calculation of the net revenue deficit contribution by the council except that where an appropriate certificate is provided on behalf of a particular borough that it is willing to comply with conditions relating to its own and transferred stock deemed *increase* shall only be £1 per dwelling per week . . . That the bid for revenue reserve prevision in the housing programme budget be amended . . . to £7.5m for transferred stock to allow for rent increase of only £1 per week."

The GLC transferred property to London boroughs, including Kensington, under two voluntary orders made under section 23 of the London Government Act 1963. The transferred property deficit was the difference payable to the transferee authority by the GLC under the orders which was collected by way of a precept.

In order to calculate the deficit, the GLC were required to determine the deemed rent increase of the transferred property. Kensington contended that the GLC had no power under the orders to offer an option to take up alternative rents and that determination was a breach of fiduciary duty and not reasonably made, since it was discriminatory.

His Lordship found that on a proper construction of the orders, a different determination, within the maximum permitted by the secretary of state, for each borough was permissible and if differing increases could be offered, the discrimination was statutorily permissible. The order did not require a determination of deemed rent increase which was the same in every London borough.

The scope within which irregularity based on discrimination within the fiduciary duty of a local authority or within the *Wednesbury* principle was very limited in the absence of statute. Bearing in mind that the present case was concerned with local authority housing subsidised by both the taxpayer and the ratepayer, his Lordship should find it very difficult to find illegality based on discrimination except in a very strong case.

It was even less open to argue discrimination when his Lordship found that the GLC had a housing responsibility in respect of retained stock as well as over Greater London housing generally, and in particular over its transferred stock.

Section 22 of the London Government Act 1963 imposed on the GLC a duty to establish records in respect of housing accommodation. That was not simply a secretarial obligation and seemed to impose on the GLC a general oversight of housing needs in Greater London. The GLC had rights to nominate tenants to tranferred property and retained responsibility for works of rehabilitation.

The GLC retained a general strategic responsibility for Greater London housing. Since they had a housing responsibility and had acted reasonably and genuinely in pursuing housing purposes, there was no scope for illegality by discrimination even if the effects might advantage or disadvantage those affected unequally. It was in the nature of a subsidy that it was discriminatory.

The decision to offer an option and to increase rents by not more than £1 would automatically result in an increased burden falling upon all ratepayers in London, but that was not illegally discriminating in the context of the GLC's general responsibility for housing in the Greater London area.

There was nothing wrong in requiring the ratepayers in Kensington to provide in part for the housing requirements of the residents and ratepayers in another inner London borough.

The whole tenor of section 23 of the London Government Act 1963, the empowering statute, was that the transfer was between the GLC and each borough, and the orders indicated that each borough should be treated individually.

Kensington criticized the GLC's policy of harmonization of rents as inappropriate, irrelevant and unreasonable. The evidence disclosed that the rents of transferred stock were in some boroughs higher than the rents of the borough's existing stock. It was easy to recognize that differing rents for not dissimilar and geographically close units of accommodation would create social or neighbourhood problems.

The GLC in this context, considered the harmonization of rents policy. His Lordship did not think that policy was irrelevant in the context of the GLC's general concern for housing policy and purpose in Greater London.

Having considered the relevant authorities and following the principles laid down, his Lordship found that the GLC, having taken highly qualified legal and professional advice, had acted upon it within their statutory power and fiduciary duty wholly reasonably, taking into account all relevant and no irrelevant matters. Accordingly there was no ground for reviewing the transferred property deficit.

Turning to the special contingency balance, the court would only be concerned with the lawful exercise by the GLC of their duty to estimate and budget in respect of income and expenditure for the coming year to which the precept would relate. The issue of the special contingency balance was one for the political hustings and not for the court.

It was a matter of real concern that the divisional court, exercising the power of judicial review, was increasingly, and particularly in this part of the case, being used for political purposes superficially dressed up as points of law.

The proper remedy was the ballot box and not the court. If a rating or precepting authority overrated or over-precepted, the remedy was in the hands of the electorate. It was only when illegality could be established that judicial review could be appropriately sought.

The impropriety of coming to the court when political capital was sought to be made could not be over stressed. It was perhaps even worse when public servants were or felt constrained to file affidavits which demonstrated a political purpose.

His Lordship accepted that it was proper for the GLC to assess the consequences of future legislation when budgeting for its annual requirement and to make provision by way of the special contingency balance. The GLC paid full attention to professional and legal advice. Kensington, after reading the GLC's affidavit, should have realised that there really was no point of law in relation to the special contingency balance.

As a matter of discretion, his Lordship would have declined to grant the relief sought. To quash the precept and to deprive the GLC of the funds necessary to provide for the legitimate needs of Greater London would have been outrageous: the more so having regard to the proportion borne by the disputed items to the total precept and to the fact that any surplus could have been absorbed by or compensated for in the precept in succeeding years.

To grant declaratory relief without quashing the precept would have been wholly without point save perhaps in giving some politician a catch phrase and he would not add judicial authority *to that end, nor would it be a* legitimate exercise of judicial authority.

Solicitors: Mr Andrew Colvin; Mr J. R. Fitzpatrick.

Immigration and dependency

Regina v Immigration Appeal Tribunal, Ex parte Patel

Mr Justice McNeill, in the Queen's Bench Division on April 5, quashed a decision of the Immigration Appeal Tribunal allowing an entry clearance officer's appeal that an immigrant widow was not entitled to an entry clearance certificate.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the tribunal, in deciding whether the widow was "mainly dependent" upon a son settled in the United Kingdom under paragraph 45 of the Statement of Immigration Rules for Control On Entry: Commonwealth Citizens (HC 79); failed to recognize that her dependency, consisting of £15 per month and free accommodation, was a necessary part of her subsistence which her other sources were insufficient to cover.

Inner-city grant scheme seeks to raise £250m

By David Walker, Local Government Correspondent

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, yesterday announced an experimental set of grants which could, if the American example on which they are based works in Britain, produce more than £250m of new investment in inner urban districts.

The Government will reserve £70m of its urban programme for 1983-84 for projects initiated by councils in which the private sector cooperates in house-building, reclaiming derelict land or constructing shops and offices. "There are no rules", Mr Heseltine said yesterday, meaning that any cooperative scheme between public and private sectors would be considered by a team of officials and businessmen.

The new scheme is one of the first fruits of the group of young financial managers appointed by Mr Heseltine last autumn to advise him on urban regeneration. Mr Heseltine and his officials are aware that the coming weekend is the anniversary of the street violence in Brixton, from which the Government's renewed interest in urban problems has stemmed.

Mr Heseltine's new grants, for which bids will be asked for by September, require councils and firms to work together to "make a significant impact on the areas concerned and contribute to improving the local enonomic base". Companies must presumably expect to profit, too. The idea of levering private finance into inner urban projects comes from the United States, which the minister's advisory team has visited.

Leverage has already been tried on a smaller scale by Mr Heseltine. He claimed yesterday that development projects worth between £70m and £100m are being attracted to inner-city areas by spending just over £10m of public money on special grants for land reclamation.

The new grants are intended to benefit 43 areas, designated under the Inner Urban Areas Act, 1978, and including Liverpool, where Mr Heseltine has invested a large amount of time in recent months, Birmingham, Manchester, Newcastle upon Tyne and parts of London.

"I propose to invite local authorities to work up investment projects in cooperation with private interests," Mr Heseltine said. "To encourage the most imaginative projects to come forward, I am placing no restrictions on the type of project that can be submitted for grant. They may be industrial, commercial, housing or recreational schemes or a combination."

Mr Heseltine emphasized that there were no "instant, generalized solutions" to the problems of the inner cities. His advisory team had produced a ferment of ideas. It is understood that these include big firms "sponsoring" a district and the banks encouraging business, especially those involving ethnic minorities, and supporting them with loans. Mr Heseltine said he refused to announce any grandiose schemes which would needlessly inflate people's expectations.

Hug an Indian tree

Continued from page 1

Almost everywhere contractors have gone beyond the legal limits of felling with the connivance of administrators who are easily paid off. So-called virgin forests, meant to remain untouched, have also been pillaged. Road building in hill areas has provided easier access for treecutters.

Contractors are important contributors to political funds. But the desperate condition of the forests in Himachal Pradesh has forced the state government to impose a ban on contract felling, considered a bold step in view of the strength of the contractors' lobby.

The national government has drafted a bill which, if enacted, would enable the authorities to declare forests protected areas, down to the last twig and mushroom.

But critics point out that enforcement of the law would lie with the very officials now in the pay of contractors. Just as importantly, they say that the tribal inhabitants of forests would suffer because aspects of their traditional way of life, gathering fruit and firewood, would be made illegal.


Harry Kerr

Mrs Esther de Waal, wife of the Dean of Canterbury, the Very Rev Victor de Waal, pouring tea for her husband in a deanery room to be used for entertaining the Pope

Nurses refused arbitration in pay dispute

By Annabel Ferriman

Nurses are now likely to be balloted on the Government's 6.4 per cent pay offer after yesterday's refusal by health service employers to go to arbitration.

Leaders of Britain's 460,000 nurses met the management side of the health service in the Whitley Council yesterday and pressed for the pay dispute to go to an independent tribunal, but the talks broke down. The nurses are seeking a 12 per cent pay deal.

Mr Dacid Williams, leader of the staff side and assistant general secretary of the Confederation of Health Service Employees, said yesterday: "We think arbitration is the only way of saving us all a lot of bother."

A ballot would gauge nurses' feelings on the offer and ask them what action should now be taken. The staff side of the council will meet again on April 23 to decide on the next step.

Rest and recreation role for Canberra

Continued from page 1

as transporters bearing military bridging equipment, communications packages and generators moved into the docks.

Before the Elk sails tomorrow, the 45,000-ton P and O cruise liner Canberra, the third biggest of its kind in the world, should have returned from its world cruise — before setting to sea again for the South Atlantic. One report yesterday suggested that a helicopter flight deck would be fitted before she departed.

The Canberra, with its swimming pool, bars, cinema, promenada, games deck and luxury accommodation, usually takes 1,750 paying passengers and could now take 5,000 troops if required.

So far the only troops known to be sailing on her are, in addition to the 3rd battalion of the Parachute Regiment, other supporting units including Field Ambulances and Royal Army Ordnance Corps personnel.

The ministry has also indicated that she might be used as a hospital ship and to provide rest and recreation for tired troops on location in the uncomfortable South Atlantic.

Canberra's crew, in contrast to some, seemed quite enthusiastic over the prospect. Mr Malcolm Bailey, branch secretary of the National Union of Seamen, who sailed on the Queen Mary himself when she carried troops during the last war, said:

"British seamen are probably more loyal to this country than anyone else. They are not all that concerned about the danger."

Sources admitted yesterday that HMS Illustrious, sister ship of Invincible, and now on her sea trials, is having her programme accelerated — but denied a suggestion that she was being rushed off to the Falkland Islands.

Brittan tries to stop City jitters

By Our Parliamentary Correspondent

Mr Leon Brittan, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, in a move clearly designed to steady the jittery nerves of the stock market and foreign exchanges, assured the Commons yesterday that the costs of the Falklands operation would require no change in the Government's basic economic strategy.

Mr Brittan, opening the second reading debate on the Finance Bill, may have brought some solace to the City, but not to Mr Peter Shore, the shadow Chancellor.

While accepting Mr Brittan's statement that it was too early to say what expenditure would be incurred, Mr Shore gave a warning that the implication of Mr Brittan's words was that spending in departments other than defence would be reduced to pay for the action that would be unacceptable to the Opposition.

Parliamentary report, page 6

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Mrs Thatcher sails into battle without an escort

In between yesterday's Prime Ministerial question time and the previous one last Thursday, the world had fatefully changed for Mrs Magaraet Thatcher, and the fact showed.

She had about her an almost visible aura of being alone. If things go well in the South Atlantic she will have a House full of friends, followers who were with her right from the beginning. If it is fierce, or worse, the corridors will be abuzz with realists who knew from the start that this adventure was madness. But yesterday we were in that strange interlude between triumph and tragedy. Prudent men were hedging their bets.

Last Thursday she had been a Prime Minister whose fortunes were faintly, but perceptibly, turning for the better. At Hillhead, her candidate had been by no means humiliated. The opinion polls were beginning to move her way. She had had no trouble at the dispatch box that day.

For an average Prime Minister's question time the House is well-attended, but not full. Yesterday it was full. The Peers' Gallery, a good guide how much interest the Commons is arousing at any given moment, was crowded. Among their Lordships, the aged, the embittered, the patriots, the sympathetic, the worried, the simply curious or the half crazed all gazed down on the beleaguered commoner from Grantham.

She slipped into her place on the front bench while Social Service ministers meandered towards the end of their questions. There were some exchanges about the death grant. That is this month's cause among the compassionate classes. The grant is still too low apparently. Either that, or people should not have to die in order to qualify. Or it should also be paid on behalf of the living so as to make it a life grant. Who knows the precise complaint is? Or cares.

Mr John Silkin, the Shadow Secretary for Defence, lowered himself into his seat on the Opposition front bench opposite her, and began silently to ooze strategems. Mr Eric Heffer squeezed in beside him. Into the small space remaining at the top of the bench, the Labour Chief Whip, Mr Cocks, almost as ample a figure as the other two, determinedly forced himself.

The frail form of Mr Michael Foot seemed to emerge from under Mr Silkin's armpit. The Prime Minister rose. In the second of silence before she embarked on her first answer, the Scots left winger Mr Canavan shouted: "Resign!" The cry was taken up by the Labour benches, pierced by the high cackle of another left winger, Mr Winnick. When the noise subsided, Mrs Thatcher launched into an answer to two Tories about British Leyland. Labour remained silent. The second question on the order paper was about President Reagan's visit to Britain, and would afford greater opportunities.

The question about the visit came from Mr Cryer, an ally of Mr Benn's, a hater of Mrs Thatcher. She was trying to use the visit to "cover up her failing position", he said. He added that "even President Reagan" had called for a peaceful solution to this crisis. Someone else should receive Mr Reagan. She should resign. Mrs Thatcher welcomed Mr Reagan as "president of our senior Nato ally and the most powerful defender of liberty in the West and liberty in the world." A Tory backbencher showed his neighbour the London evening paper, with news of Mr Reagan's desire to mediate between his "two allies". We are being equated with Argentina, it seemed. Ominous.

Mr Foot made his first move. Were these reports true that we knew well in advance of Argetina's intentions? Mrs Thatcher in effect denied it. Several times Mr Foot persisted. Mrs Thatcher struggled through further denials, amid Labour glee. But her backbenchers looked on. They believed that we did indeed know, and that she had not been told, and that the rules of politics forbade saying so.

The opposition knew this too, particularly the cleverest or most cynical. Still, it was a good issue for them at this early stage. So there was an air of make-believe about these opening exchanges of the crisis, perhaps for the last time. Mrs Thatcher gathered up her papers quickly and left the Chamber on her own.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Princess of Wales opens new Sony factory at Bridgend, S. Wales, 11.

Princess Margaret attends gala performance by Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet, of which she is President, in aid of Wells Cathedral, Hippodrome Theatre, Bristol, 7.30.

Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester, opens Rockingham Castle and the Naval Connection exhibition, Rockingham Castle, Leicestershire, 2.45.

The Duchess of Kent opens new surgery at Burnham Market, Norfolk, 3.

Princess Alexandra takes The Lord High Admiral's Divisions, Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, 11.30.

New exhibitions

Work by Craigie Aitchison, Portsmouth City Museum and Art Gallery, Museum Road, Old Portsmouth; Mon to Sun 10.30 to 5.30; (from today until May 16).

Drawings and sculpture by Ronald Rae, Rozelle House Museum, Rozelle Park, Ayr; Mon to Sat 11 to 1 and 2 to 5, Sun 2 to 5; (from today until May 2). Also sculpture by Henry Moore, from today until April 25.

Work by Frank Matcham, theatre architect and designer, Wakefield Museum, Wood Street, Wakefield; Mon to Sat 12.30 to 5.30, Sun 2.30 to 5.30; (from today until May 16).

The World of the Microscope — photographs by Gene Cox with John Forsdyke and Kate Powell, The Octagon, Milsom Street, Bath; Mon to Sat 10 to 4.45; (from today until May 15).

Exhibitions in progress

The royal wedding dress and presents, Civic Centre, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Mon to Sat 9.30 to 5.30, Sun 12 to 5 (until April 25).

Paintings by George C Morrison and Desmond Turner, Cleft Art Gallery, Bridge Street, Omagh, N Ireland; Mon to Sat 1 to 4, closed Wed (until April 30).

Paintings and drawings by Sue and Malclom Davies, City Museum, Market Square, Lancaster; Mon to Sat 10 to 5 (until April 24).

Indian Monuments through British Eyes, 1760-1980, aquatints by the Daniells and others, Adeane Gallery, Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge; Tues to Sat 10 to 4.50, Sun 2.15 to 4.50 (until April 25).

Pioneers of Flight, Corinium Museum, Park Street, Cirencester; Tues to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 ;(until April 25).

Paintings by Rossina Conroy, Lewis Textile Museum, Exchange Street, Blackburn, Mon to Sat 9.30 to 6; (until April 24).

Picasso Prints Edinburgh Printmakers' Workshop, 29 Market Street, Edinburgh; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30; (until April 17).

Inner Worlds, selected by Paul Overy, sculptures, paintings, and drawings E M Flint Gallery, Walsall; Mon Fri 10 to 6, Sat 10 to 4.45; (until April).

Drawings by Jan Ingleby and lithographs by Angela Thorpe, Oriel 31 High Street, Welshpool; Mon to Sat 11 to 5; (until April 15.

Paintings by Gillian Ayres, Third Eye Centre, 350 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow; Tues to Sat 10 to 5.30, Sun 2 to 5.30; (until April 17).

Music

Concert by Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Usher Hall, Lothian Road, Edinburgh, 7.45.

Concert by British Railways Lincoln Male Voice Choir, Metheringham Village Hall, Lincolnshire, 7.30.

Concert by Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, Colston Hall, Colston Street, Bristol, 7.30.

Gala performance by Sadlers Wells Royal Ballet, Hippodrome, Bristol, 7.30.

Concert by Orchestra of St John's Smith Square, Hexagon, Reading, 7.30.

Talks, lectures

Talk and demonstration on Ukrainian Easter customs and egg decorating, by Mrs Witoszynska, Museum and Art Gallery, Chequer Road, Doncaster, 2 to 4.30.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,800

ACROSS

1 Got tight when beaten (5).
4 Wine's capital, attacked by those who did so (9).
9 Tow a number of rows in song for the British one (9).
10 Formerly, not knowing about the sea-ear (5).
11 The Divine Mrs Abraham? (5).
12 What strict examiners may do to farm lad (9).
13 Old man gets about round Sark, etc (7).
15 In sound, a horse has carrying capacity (7).
18 The stripper's old problem? (7).
20 Splendid specimen seen in the slag-heap (7).
21 Rails round unusually clean geese (9).
23 Man welcome to swell up (5).
25 Poet joins newsmen in Russia, with love (5).
26 Defender in a game gets the essential point (9).
27 Feel smaller, and foolish (9).
28 Get better fish, about fifty pounds (5).

DOWN

1 Member's out of time to do house business (9).
2 Pure, if plain (5).
3 Eternal trouble with these lads (9).
4 Defeat most fancied dog (7).
5 Tutus — or perhaps a frock-coat (7).
6 A pine ahead (5).
7 Pigment both light and very dark (9).
8 This devoted old husband in Chinatown, say? (5).
14 "——s don't become a young woman," said Mrs Malaprop (9).
16 Jones as a pace-setter (9).
17 With serious intent, home — in before time (9).
19 It's free — could be a catch (7).
20 Things usually done by blighter to capture cat (7).
21 Snaps the bays, we hear (5).
22 A French artist to worship (5).
24 Earl has one variety of gazelle (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,799

Anniversaries

Charles Burney, composer and music historian, was born at Shrewsbury, 1726; and William Wordsworth at Cockermouth, Cumberland, 1770.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Debate on the Falkland Islands.
Lords (11): Legal Aid Bill, report. Deer (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill, third reading. Debate on Poland and the Helsinki Declaration.

TV top ten

National top ten television programmes in the week ending March 28:

ITV

1 The Spy Who Loved Me, ITV (22.90m)
2 Coronation Street (Wed) Granada (17.95m)
3 This Is Your Life, Thames (17.80m)
4 Coronation Street (Mon) (16m)
5 3-2-1, Yorkshire (15m)
6 Family Fortunes, Central (14.90m)
7 The Gaffer, Yorkshire (13.50m)
8 Mind Your Language, LWT (13.30m)
9 Minder, Thames (13.20m)
10 Crossroads, Central (Tues) (12.95m)
10= Crossroads (Wed) (12.95m)

BBC 1

1 Top of the Pops (13.30m)
2 Dallas (12.95m)
3 The Kenny Everett Television Show (12.35m)
4 Escape from Zahrain (11.85m)
5 Shoestring (11.60m)
6 A Song for Europe '82 (11.20m)
6= Holiday (11.20m)
8 A Question of Sport (10.35m)
9 News & Sport, Saturday (10.10m)
10 Jim'll Fix It (10m)

BBC 2

1 Pot Black '82 (9.25m)
2 Marti Caine (8.95m)
3 One Man and His Dog (7.40m)
4 The Mike Harding Show (6.55m)
5 Nancy Astor (Wed & Sun) (6.25m)
6 The African Queen (5.95m)
7 Russell Harty (Tues) (5.60m)
8 Seven Days in May (5.20m)
9 The Waltons (4.95m)
10 MASH (4.35m)

Broadcasters' Audience Research Board.

Law courts

Hilary sittings at the Royal Courts of Justice end today; Easter sittings start on Tuesday, April 20.

The Pound

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.75	1.67
Austria Sch	31.35	29.35
Belgium Fr	94.00	89.00
Canada $	2.23	2.14
Denmark Kr	15.15	14.35
France Fr	11.48	10.88
Germany DM	4.43	4.18
Greece Dr	113.00	106.00
Hongkong $	10.65	10.05
Ireland Pt	1.265	1.215
Italy Lir	2370.00	2270.00
Japan Yn	464.00	438.00
Netherlands Gld	4.90	4.64
Norway Kr	11.23	10.63
Portugal Esc	131.00	124.00
Sth Africa Rd	2.16	2.00
Spain Pta	191.00	182.00
Sweden Kr	10.93	10.35
Switzerland Fr	3.62	3.40
USA $	1.82	1.75
Yugoslav Dnr	95.50	89.50

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International.

London: The FT Index closed down 6.9 at 553.0.

Roads

London and South-east: A40: Near Polish War Memorial, Northolt, westbound diversion on to old eastbound carriageway. Richmond Park: Roadworks at Roehampton Gate; congestion at Robin Hood Gate and A3 expected. A25: Eastbound diversion around Dorking town centre: very long delays. A40: Oxford northern by-pass completely closed in places; diversions.

Midlands: A5: Width restrictions at Kilsby and Cowellbend, Northamptonshire. A57: Roadworks and temporary signals at Snake Pass, Derbyshire. A1: Only hard shoulder open southbound between junction 26 (Nottingham) and Trowell service area.

North: A5117: Temporary lights between Hapsford and Dunkirk, N of Chester. A6079: Roadworks on Station Road, Hexham. A1: Roadworks near Ellingham and Berwick-upon-Tweed; also at Barnsdale Bar and Red House; (S Yorkshire).

Wales and West: A4/A37: Roadworks at this intersections, Bristol. A465: Closed southbound at Llandarcy, W Glamorgan. A38: Width reductions at Broad Quay and St Augustine's Parade, Bristol.

Scotland: M90: Closed northbound between junctions 5 (Glenrothes) and 6 (Kinross); diversions. M8: Lane closures between junction 15 (Townhead) and 12 (Stirling). A93: Temporary signals at Dundee Road, Perth.

The papers

"If Lord Carrington had devoted more time to the Falkland Islands and less to the Common Market, he might still be Foreign Secretary today," says the Daily Mirror, but the paper goes on to urge the Labour Party to reverse its decision to leave Europe, which "could damage hopes for a prosperous economy".

The Wall Street Journal said yesterday, that looking at attitudes to defence by past Labour governments and even some Conservative ministers, it is understandable why Argentina thought "Britain would be an easy mark".

"The US has a strong interest in seeing British administration restored to the Falklands", said the Washington Post, "and so do many other nations, some of which recognize that interest and some of which do not".

"Lord Carrington came into politics as an aristocrat and left it with the dignity of a lord", Le Monde says, "but his realism and professionalism will be greatly missed in European affairs".

The Suddentsche Zeitung said Lord Carrington will be greatly missed after "Falkland fever" dies down; the Stuttgart Zeitung said "Thatcher has lost the most successful pillar of her team".

Norwegian newspapers reflected mixed views on the Falklands crisis: The Socialist Oslo Arbeiderbladet said: "Bitter it must be to admit, but Britain must now consider the Falklands as 'lost'"; the Conservative Morgenbladet feels "the Islas Malvinas are located within Argentina's sphere of interest and should become a part of Argentina", but the Christian Democratic Vaart Land places blame for the conflict squarly "on the colourful epaulettes of the Argentine generals".

Weather

A depression is approaching SW Ireland, with associated troughs crossing most parts of the British Isles.

6 am to midnight

London, SE, Central S, E, NW, Central N England, E Anglia, Midlands, N Wales, Isle of Man, N Ireland: Cloudy with outbreaks of rain, heavy in places; wind mainly S, moderate; max temp 13C (55F).

Channel Islands, SW England, S Wales: Cloudy with outbreaks of rain, heavy in places, becoming drier and brighter; wind SW, moderate to fresh; max temp 12C (54F).

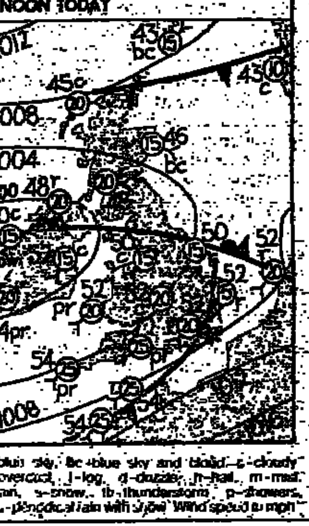
Lake District, NE England, Borders, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll: Misty with fog patches at first, rain spreading from S; wind variable, light; max temp 11C (52F).

Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlands: Cloudy with outbreaks of rain, sunny intervals developing; wind variable, light; max temp 9C (48F).

Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Sunny intervals, becoming cloudier with outbreaks of rain later; wind variable, light, becoming NE; max temp 8C (46F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Sunny intervals and showers, becoming colder with night frost in places.

SEA PASSAGES: North Sea: Wind SW, fresh or strong, perhaps gale later; sea rough. Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind SW, strong to gale; sea rough or very rough. St Georges Channel: Wind SW, strong occasionally gale at first; sea rough or very rough. Irish Sea: Wind mainly S, fresh or strong, becoming moderate; sea rough becoming moderate.



Sun rises: 6.23 am Sun sets: 7.43 pm
Moon sets: 6.34 am Moon rises: 6.36 pm
Full moon: Tomorrow

NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars FRONTS Warm Cold Occluded

b-blue sky; bc-blue sky and cloud; c-cloudy; o-overcast; f-fog; d-drizzle; h-hail; m-mist; r-rain; s-snow; th-thunderstorm; p-showers; pr-periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph.

Lighting-up time

London 8.13 pm to 5.51 am
Bristol 8.23 pm to 6.01 am
Edinburgh 8.32 pm to 5.56 am
Manchester 8.25 pm to 6.57 am
Penzance 8.33 pm to 6.15 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; fg, fog.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	c	13	55	Guernsey	f	11	52
Birmingham	r	9	48	Inverness	c	8	46
Blackpool	c	12	54	Jersey	c	11	52
Bristol	f	12	54	London	c	11	52
Cardiff	f	13	55	Manchester	c	11	52
Edinbugh	c	8	46	Newcastle	c	11	52
Glasgow	c	9	48	Ronaldsway	fg	9	48

Highest and lowest

Highest day temp: Scarborough, 16 c (61 F). Lowest day max: Wick, St Abbs Head, Fifeness, 7 c (45 F). Highest rainfall: Benson, .7 in. Highest sunshine: Ilfracombe, 6.1 hr.

London

Temp: max 7 am to 7 pm, 12C (54F); min 7 pm to 7 am, 11C (52F). Humidity: 7 pm, 86 per cent. Rain: 24 hr to 7 pm, .42in. Sun: 24 hr to 7 pm, 0.4hr. Bar, mean sea level, 7 pm, 1,010.4 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

High tides

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	2.03	6.9	2.31	7.3
Aberdeen	1.38	4.0	1.45	4.1
Avonmouth	7.35	12.8	8.00	13.0
Belfast	11.19	3.4	11.49	3.1
Cardiff	7.21	11.9	7.45	12.0
Devonport	6.20	5.4	6.45	5.4
Dover	11.33	6.3	11.46	6.5
Falmouth	5.50	5.2	6.15	5.2
Glasgow	1.25	4.5	1.24	4.7
Harwich			12.25	4.0
Holyhead	10.42	5.5	11.04	5.4
Hull	6.48	7.1	[illegible]	7.4
Ilfracombe	6.22	9.0	6.44	9.0
Leith	2.52	5.4	3.11	5.5
Liverpool	11.41	9.3	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lowestoft	10.04	2.3	10.04	2.4
Margate	12.11	4.5	12.49	4.6
Milford Haven	6.37	6.9	6.58	6.9
Newquay	5.28	6.3	[illegible]	6.9
Oban	6.18	3.8	6.42	3.8
Penzance	5.18	5.5	5.41	5.5
Portland	7.14	2.0	8.02	2.0
Portsmouth	11.47	4.5	[illegible]	[illegible]
Shoreham	11.32	6.0	[illegible]	[illegible]
Southampton	11.19	4.4	11.43	4.6
Swansea	6.47	9.3	7.10	9.4
Tees	4.04	5.2	4.16	5.4
Walton-on-Naze	[illegible]	[illegible]	12.16	4.1

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Around Britain

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro	2.1	—	16	61	Cloudy
Bridlington	—	—	12	54	Cloudy
Hastings	2.0	.17	12	54	Rain
Eastbourne	2.0	.28	11	52	Cloudy
Worthing	1.2	.22	12	54	Rain
Littlehmptn	1.0	.24	11	52	Rain
Bognor R	1.2	.31	11	52	Showers
Hayling I	1.1	.35	11	52	Rain
Southsea	[illegible]	.29	12	54	Shws pm
Ryde	1.0	.29	12	54	Shws pm
Sandown	1.6	.17	12	54	Shws aft
Shanklin	1.1	.28	11	52	Rain
Ventnor	0.7	.42	13	55	Rain pm
Bournemth	2.9	.27	12	54	Sun int
Poole	4.7	.19	14	57	Sun int
Swanage	3.8	.25	12	54	Shws am
Weymouth	2.1	.23	12	54	Cloudy
Exmouth	4.2	.10	14	57	Shws pm
Teignmouth	4.8	.09	14	57	Drizzle
Torquay	4.2	.13	14	57	Driz pm
Falmouth	2.2	.09	13	55	Rain
Penzance	2.7	.12	13	55	Shws am
Jersey	3.5	.17	14	57	Shws am
Guernsey	4.2	.18	15	59	Rain pm
Scilly Isles	2.7	.11	12	54	Rain pm
Newquay	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Ilfracombe	6.1	.10	14	57	Sun pm
Tenby	2.4	.12	11	52	Rain am
Anglesey	1.8	.01	11	52	Fog am
Colwyn Bay	1.1	.01	13	55	Cloudy
Southport	—	.24	12	54	Dull all
Blackpool	0.1	.15	12	54	Fog am
Morecambe	0.1	.10	12	54	Cloudy
Douglas	2.4	.02	13	54	Fog
Aldergrove	5.2	—	15	59	Sun int
Eskdalemuir	0.2	.19	11	52	Rain am
Prestwick	0.2	.06	13	55	Rain am
Abbotsinch	0.5	.33	12	54	Rain am
Tiree	2.9	—	11	52	Sun int
Stornoway	0.8	.09	11	52	Rain pm
Lerwick	6.0	—	9	48	Fog am
Wick	0.1	.08	7	45	Rain pm
Kinloss	—	.12	8	46	Rain
Dyce	—	.08	7	45	Rain am
St Andrews	—	.29	7	45	Fog am
Dunbar	—	.25	8	46	Rain am

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F
Ajaccio	s	19	66
Akrotiri	f	19	66
Alexandria	f	21	70
Algiers	c	17	63
Amsterdam	c	14	57
Athens	s	17	63
Bahrain*	s	27	81
Barbados			
Barcelona	s	16	61
Beirut	f	19	66
Belgrade	s	18	64
Berlin	f	19	66
Bermuda			
Biarritz	c	15	59
Boulogne	f	11	52
Bordeaux	f	16	61
Boston			
Brussels	r	13	55
Budapest	s	19	66
Cairo	f	23	73
Cape Tn	c	19	66
C'hagen	s	17	63
Chicago			
Cologne	f	19	66
Copenhgn	s	15	59
Corfu	s	21	70
Dallas			
Dublin	f	12	54
Dubrovnik	s	18	64
Faro	s	17	63
Florence	s	23	73
Frankfurt	s	21	70
Funchal	c	17	63
Geneva	c	17	63
Gibraltar	s	18	64
Helsinki	c	5	41
Hongkong	f	22	72
Innsbruck	s	19	66
Istanbul	f	11	52
Jiddah	s	29	84
Jo'burg	f	22	72
Karachi			
Las Palmas	s	20	68
Lisbon	f	15	59
Locarno	c	16	61
L Angeles			
Luxembg	c	10	50
Madrid	f	15	59
Majorca	c	18	66
Malaga	s	21	70
Malta	c	16	61
Melbourne	f	20	68
Mexico C			
Miami			
Milan	s	20	68
Montreal			
Moscow	s	5	41
Munich	s	20	68
Nairobi	f	28	82
Naples	s	20	68
New Delhi*	s	33	91
New York			
Nice	s	18	64
Oslo	c	3	37
Ottawa			
Paris	c	13	55
Peking	s	23	73
Prague	s	19	66
Reykjavik	f	4	39
Rhodes	s	18	64
Riyadh*	s	34	93
Rio de Jan			
Rome	s	20	68
Salzburg	s	21	70
Sao Paulo			
S Francisco			
Santiago			
Seoul	[illegible]	17	63
Singapore	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Stockholm	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Strasbourg	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sydney	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Tangier	[illegible]	17	63
Tehran	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Tel Aviv	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Tenerife	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Tokyo	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Toronto	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Tunis	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Valencia	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Vancouver	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Venice	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Vienna	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Warsaw	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Washington	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Zurich	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

*denotes last night's figures are latest available

